United Nations A/54/6 (Sect. 20)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 April 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session

# Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001*

**Part V**
**Regional cooperation for development**

## Section 20
## Economic and social development in Western Asia

**(Programme 18 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)**

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* The present document contains section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

99-09904 (E) 030599

# Section 20
# Economic and social development in Western Asia

**(Programme 18 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)**

## Overview

20.1 The programme of work under this section has been elaborated within the framework of programme 18 of the revised medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1), and will be implemented by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

20.2 The principal objective of the programme during the biennium 2000–2001 will be to articulate regional perspectives and mechanisms for pursuing sustainable development in selected socio-economic fields that would result in the following: (a) forging the missing regional link between national perspectives and global trends; (b) building consensus among member States on policies and on the use of norms, standards and legislative instruments by identifying common grounds; (c) assisting member States in building capacities in various fields; (d) facilitating and increasing partnership between governmental organizations and civil society institutions; and (e) providing reliable, harmonized, comparable and timely data, information and statistics that would facilitate judicious policy action and decision-making and also assist member States in understanding and adopting internationally accepted statistical standards.

20.3 The proposed programme of work contains the following salient features:

(a) It maintains the multidisciplinary approach to the formulation and implementation of the work programme by developing clusters of multidisciplinary outputs around the issues of environment, regional follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations of four global conferences, poverty, civil society institutions, gender, the World Trade Organization and related issues, globalization of the world economy, electronic commerce and free trade in the region. These issues, and others cut across various subprogrammes and are thus addressed from various perspectives;

b) In line with the revised medium-term plan, though inherent in the work programme for the biennium 1998–1999, gender mainstreaming and human rights, within the context of the right to development, will become more pronounced in the proposed work programme for the biennium 2000–2001. The issue of human rights permeates the entire programme, since it is enshrined in the very mandate of the Commission, which revolves around the right to development. In this context, the issues of governance and civil society institutions and partnership between the State and civil society actors will receive special attention;

(c) During the biennium, ESCWA will attempt to keep abreast with the requirements of the age of communication. During the biennium 1998–1999, ESCWA developed a home page on its general activities. During the biennium 2000–2001, it will launch several home pages addressing the impact of global conferences on the quality of life, information from the ESCWA Population Information Network (POPIN) and ESCWA activities in the fields of water, transport, industry, agriculture and statistics. It is hoped that this will assist in propagating the work of ESCWA and in obtaining feedback from the public at large;

(d) Greater balance in statistical coverage in the economic and social fields, historically biased towards the former, has been observed owing to expansion in the area of social statistics and information. This is especially evident in the area of gender statistics and the development of social indicators in response to the recommendations relating to the Common Country Assessment/Minimum National Social Data Set (CCA/MNSDS), a development which will facilitate follow-up to the recommendations of global conferences at the regional level and the production of gender-disaggregated data, two issues of main concern to the United Nations system at large.

20.4 The overall resources proposed under this section amount to $49,994,400, including resource growth of $242,100. The proposed changes reflected in table 20.1 below are summarized as follows:

(a) The decrease of $1,446,600 under executive direction and management is the result of the redeployment of one P-5, one P-4, one P-3, one P-2 and five Local level posts, which were approved for the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit, to programme support, where they will be merged with the Technical Cooperation Division to form the Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division, and a decrease of $20,000 for travel;

(b) The increase of $112,500 under programme of work includes $28,400 under general temporary assistance for statistical data-related tasks, $48,100 under consultants and expert group meetings in a number of areas and $36,000 under travel;

(c) The increase of $1,576,200 under programme support is the net result of increases and decreases under various objects of expenditure as follows: increases of (i) $1,478,100 under posts due to the redeployment of the staff of the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit, as mentioned above, and the proposed reclassification of one P-3 post to the P-4 level to reflect rising needs for automation and electronic data-processing and communication and the increased complexity of the work in this area; (ii) $221,000 to provide for continuous support to IMIS operations; (iii) $232,900 for round-the-clock contractual security services for ESCWA premises; (iv) $29,800 for consultants to provide specialized services on video and satellite integration; (v) $20,000 to provide for travel requirements for the staff of the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit; (vi) $459,100 under contractual services, including outsourcing services to support the work of the General services section; and (vii) $82,000 for supplies and materials including office supplies, stationery, uniforms, etc. These increases are offset by decreases of (i) $728,100 under general operating expenses (owing mostly to reduction under maintenance of premises) and (ii) $218,600 under furniture and equipment.

20.5 It is estimated that during the biennium 2000–2001, extrabudgetary resources amounting to $481,200 will be utilized to supplement resources from the regular budget to finance activities related to the follow-up to global conferences such as round table discussions on tools and approaches to alleviate poverty, preparation of studies on micro-credit, workshops on social indicators and information materials on gender mainstreaming. Other activities financed through extrabudgetary resources include advisory services to enhance institutions of civil society and their integration in the national decision-making process, the promotion of income-generating activities for disabled persons, and the development of statistics on poverty.

Table 20.1 **Summary of requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| *Component* | *1996-1997 expenditures* | *1998-1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000-2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| A. Policy-making organs | 23.3 | 108.0 | – | – | 108.0 | 10.9 | 118.9 |
| B. Executive direction and management | 2 787.7 | 3 216.2 | (1 446.6) | (44.9) | 1 769.6 | 95.3 | 1 864.9 |
| C. Programme of work | 14 032.2 | 22 748.6 | 112.5 | 0.4 | 22 861.1 | 885.4 | 23 746.5 |
| D. Programme support | 16 067.9 | 23 679.5 | 1 576.2 | 6.6 | 25 255.7 | 2 025.4 | 27 281.1 |
| **Total** | **32 911.1** | **49 752.3** | **242.1** | **0.4** | **49 994.4** | **3 017.0** | **53 011.4** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 estimates | Source of funds | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects | |
| 273.2 | 1 235.1 | UNDP | 481.2 |
| 1 187.9 | 1 325.8 | UNFPA | – |
| 5.5 | 0.5 | UNESCO | – |
| 9.0 | 9.6 | UNICEF | – |
| 12.0 | – | UNEP | – |
| 73.7 | 19.2 | World Bank | – |
| 9.5 | 13.5 | ILO | – |
| 1 248.6 | 942.5 | ESCWA Trust Fund | – |
| 516.4 | 324.2 | Multilateral sources | – |
| 46.0 | 10.0 | Bilateral sources | – |
| **3 381.8** | **3 880.4** | **Total** | **481.2** |
| **36 292.9** | **53 632.7** | **Total (1) and (2)** | **53 492.6** |

Table 20.2 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| Object of expenditure | 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 appropriations | Resource growth | | Total before recosting | Recosting | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Amount | Percentage | | | |
| Posts | 27 934.4 | 41 286.5 | 51.5 | 0.1 | 41 338.0 | 2 174.0 | 43 512.0 |
| Other staff costs | 197.3 | 518.0 | 482.3 | 93.1 | 1 000.3 | 100.5 | 1 100.8 |
| Consultants and experts | 620.6 | 1 053.4 | 77.9 | 7.3 | 1 131.3 | 113.8 | 1 245.1 |
| Travel | 395.3 | 468.8 | 36.0 | 7.6 | 504.8 | 24.5 | 529.3 |
| Contractual services | 293.8 | 440.8 | 459.1 | 104.1 | 899.9 | 90.3 | 990.2 |
| General operating expenses | 1 968.1 | 4 301.4 | (728.1) | (16.9) | 3 573.3 | 358.6 | 3 931.9 |
| Hospitality | 0.6 | 18.0 | – | – | 18.0 | 1.8 | 19.8 |
| Supplies and materials | 604.4 | 681.8 | 82.0 | 12.0 | 763.8 | 76.7 | 840.5 |
| Furniture and equipment | 896.6 | 983.6 | (218.6) | (22.2) | 765.0 | 76.8 | 841.8 |
| **Total** | **32 911.1** | **49 752.3** | **242.1** | **0.4** | **49 994.4** | **3 017.0** | **53 011.4** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 estimates* | *Object of expenditure* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 060.9 | 1 604.7 | Posts | 169.9 |
| 754.9 | 506.2 | Other staff costs | – |
| 424.3 | 406.2 | Consultants and experts | 83.0 |
| 193.4 | 350.1 | Travel | 20.0 |
| 60.4 | 236.5 | Contractual services | – |
| 334.7 | 158.2 | General operating expenses | 14.7 |
| 19.8 | 10.6 | Supplies and materials | – |
| 96.0 | 15.9 | Furniture/equipment acquisition | – |
| 437.4 | 580.2 | Fellowships, grants, contributions | 170.0 |
| – | 11.8 | Other | 23.6 |
| **Total** | **3 381.8** | **3 880.4** | **481.2** |
| **Total (1) and (2)** | **36 292.9** | **53 632.7** | **53 492.6** |

Table 20.3 **Post requirements**

| | *Established posts* | | *Temporary posts* | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Regular budget* | | *Regular budget* | | *Extrabudgetary resources* | | *Total* | |
| | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| USG | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| D-2 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| D-1 | 7 | 7 | – | – | – | – | 7 | 7 |
| P-5 | 21 | 21 | – | – | 6 | 1 | 27 | 22 |
| P-4/3 | 58 | 58 | – | – | – | – | 58 | 58 |
| P-2/1 | 15 | 15 | – | – | 2 | – | 17 | 15 |
| **Total** | **103** | **103** | **–** | **–** | **8** | **1** | **111** | **104** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 160 | 160 | – | – | 5 | – | 165 | 160 |
| Field Service | 3 | 3 | – | – | – | – | 3 | 3 |
| **Total** | **163** | **163** | **–** | **–** | **5** | **–** | **168** | **163** |
| **Grand total** | **266** | **266** | **–** | **–** | **13** | **1** | **279** | **267** |

20.6 The estimated percentage distribution of the total resources of the Commission during the biennium 2000–2001 would be as follows:

| | *Regular budget* | *Extra-budgetary* |
|---|---|---|
| | *(percentage)* | |
| A. Policy-making organs | 0.2 | – |
| B. Executive direction and management | 3.6 | – |
| C. Programme of work | 45.7 | 100.0 |
| D. Programme support | 50.5 | – |
| **Total** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

# A. Policy-making organs

Table 20.4 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

*Regular budget*

| *Object of expenditure* | *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| Other staff costs | 23.3 | 108.0 | – | – | 108.0 | 10.9 | 118.9 |
| **Total** | **23.3** | **108.0** | **–** | **–** | **108.0** | **10.9** | **118.9** |

20.7 The 13-member Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), which reports to the Economic and Social Council, and its main subsidiary body, the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade and Economic Globalization in the Countries of the ESCWA Region, meet biennially. ESCWA meets in ministerial session. It has established six specialized intergovernmental subsidiary bodies to advise on policy formulation in their respective areas and provide a forum for consultation on various aspects of the programme of work and on emerging issues. These subsidiary bodies and the number of days of meetings for each one are as follows: the Statistics Committee, (3 days); the Committee on Social Development (3 days); the Committee on Energy (2 days); the Committee on Water Resources (3 days); the Committee on Transport (2 days); and the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade and Economic Globalization in the Countries of the ESCWA Region (3 days). These Committees were established by ESCWA resolutions 179 (XVI), 198 (XVII), 204 (XVIII), 205 (XVIII), 213 (XIX) and 214 (XIX), respectively. The Committee on Water Resources and the Technical Committee hold their sessions annually, while the other Committees convene their sessions biennially.

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Other staff costs*

20.8 The estimated requirements of $108,000, at maintenance level, relate to the provision of interpretation, translation, administrative, secretarial and other relevant services to the twenty-first session of the Commission and the twelfth session of its Technical Committee and to the sessions of its six subsidiary committees referred to above.

## B. Executive direction and management

Table 20.5 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

*Regular budget*

| Object of expenditure | 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 appropriations | Resource growth | | Total before recosting | Recosting | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Amount | Percentage | | | |
| Posts | 2 674.3 | 3 055.8 | (1 426.6) | (46.6) | 1 629.2 | 87.1 | 1 716.3 |
| Consultants and experts | – | 25.4 | – | – | 25.4 | 2.6 | 28.0 |
| Travel | 113.4 | 135.0 | (20.0) | (14.8) | 115.0 | 5.6 | 120.6 |
| **Total** | **2 787.7** | **3 216.2** | **(1 446.6)** | **(44.9)** | **1 769.6** | **95.3** | **1 864.9** |

Table 20.6 **Post requirements**

*Executive direction and management*

| | Established posts | | Temporary posts | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular budget | | Regular budget | | Extrabudgetary resources | | Total | |
| | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| USG | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| D-2 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 2 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 2 | 1 |
| P-4/3 | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – |
| P-2/1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| **Total** | **7** | **3** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **7** | **3** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 11 | 6 | – | – | – | – | 11 | 6 |
| **Total** | **11** | **6** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **11** | **6** |
| **Grand total** | **18** | **9** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **18** | **9** |

20.9 The Office of the Executive Secretary provides overall direction, management and policy guidelines for substantive divisions, technical cooperation and regional advisory services and information services rendered by the ESCWA secretariat. It also establishes guidelines and priorities for the preparation of the medium-term plan, the programme budget, the implementation of ESCWA's programme of work and its evaluation. It establishes liaison with member States and with subregional, regional and international organizations; United Nations agencies and offices; other regional commissions; and the United Nations Secretariat, for the purpose of coordinating priorities and areas of common interest.

20.10 The Office of the Executive Secretary oversees the conduct of the biennial sessions of the Commission and of its Technical Committee; the conduct of the Commission's six specialized subsidiary intergovernmental bodies; the celebration of special events; and the convening of ad hoc meetings of eminent persons and government representatives to discuss emerging issues and apprise representatives of member States of recent developments. Furthermore, it convenes periodic meetings of the Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Group and the Consultative Committee of Ambassadors, two advisory bodies established to further facilitate

consultation between the ESCWA secretariat, on the one hand, and member States and other United Nations organizations, on the other.

20.11 In addition, the Office administers public information functions through the joint services of the United Nations Information Centre/United Nations Information Services. The information services activities aim at increasing public awareness and understanding of the work conducted by the United Nations in general and ESCWA and the specialized agencies in Lebanon in particular. These activities, including those undertaken jointly with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, have steadily increased upon the relocation of ESCWA to Beirut, and this trend is expected to persist owing to the media profile of the host country. Activities will include the issuance of press releases, bulletins and information kits, the development of quality audio and video programmes, the production of an ESCWA information booklet, the issuance of occasional pamphlets or brochures to cover special events, the preparation of lectures and briefing for journalists on United Nations issues and the creation of a home page on the general activities of ESCWA addressed to the public at large.

20.12 A major undertaking of the ESCWA secretariat and the Office of the Executive Secretary is the biennial publication entitled *ESCWA Report*, which provides information on the Commission and its mandates, highlights its main activities and projects during each biennium and outlines its aspirations.

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.13 The estimated requirements of $1,629,200, reflecting a decrease of $1,426,600, relate to the posts as indicated in table 20.6 above. The decrease of $1,426,600 results from the proposed redeployment of the posts of the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit (1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2 and 5 Local level) to programme support where they will be merged with the posts of the Technical Cooperation Division to form the Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division.

*Consultants and experts*

20.14 The estimated requirements of $25,400, at maintenance level, would cover the cost of consultants' fees and travel in areas that do not fall under the mandates of any of the substantive divisions, as may be requested by the Commission or at the initiative of the Executive Secretary.

*Travel of staff*

20.15 The estimated requirements of $115,000, reflecting a reduction of $20,000, would provide for travel of the Executive Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary and their immediate staff for consultations with Governments and the specialized agencies, to attend meetings within and outside the ESCWA region, including meetings of the executive secretaries of regional commissions and intergovernmental meetings, as well as for consultations at Headquarters. The reduction of $20,000 is related to the travel requirements of the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit. It is proposed to redeploy this amount to programme support.

# C. Programme of work

Table 20.7 **Summary of requirements by programme**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| Programme | 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 appropriations | Resource growth | | Total before recosting | Recosting | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Amount | Percentage | | | |
| 1. Management of natural resources and environment | 1 888.9 | 4 083.1 | 56.8 | 1.3 | 4 139.9 | 159.0 | 4 298.9 |
| 2. Improvement of the quality of life | 3 659.9 | 5 728.9 | (169.7) | (2.9) | 5 559.2 | 211.4 | 5 770.6 |
| 3. Economic development and global changes | 4 393.4 | 4 034.6 | 182.0 | 4.5 | 4 216.6 | 159.3 | 4 375.9 |
| 4. Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development | 2 030.3 | 5 978.2 | 26.4 | 0.4 | 6 004.6 | 212.9 | 6 217.5 |
| 5. Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information | 2 059.7 | 2 923.8 | 17.0 | 0.5 | 2 940.8 | 142.8 | 3 083.6 |
| **Subtotal** | **14 032.2** | **22 748.6** | **112.5** | **0.4** | **22 861.1** | **885.4** | **23 746.5** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 estimates | Source of funds | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects | |
| 273.2 | 1 235.1 | UNDP | 481.2 |
| 1 187.9 | 1 325.8 | UNFPA | – |
| 5.5 | 0.5 | UNESCO | – |
| 9.0 | 9.6 | UNICEF | – |
| 12.0 | – | UNEP | – |
| 73.7 | 19.2 | World Bank | – |
| 9.5 | 13.5 | ILO | – |
| 80.5 | 155.2 | ESCWA Trust Fund | – |
| 459.7 | 318.5 | Multilateral sources | – |
| 46.0 | 10.0 | Bilateral sources | – |
| **2 157.0** | **3 087.4** | **Total** | **481.2** |
| **16 189.2** | **25 836.0** | **Total (1) and (2)** | **24 227.7** |

Table 20.8 **Post requirements**

*Programme of work*

| | Established posts | | Temporary posts | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular budget | | Regular budget | | Extrabudgetary resources | | Total | |
| | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 5 | 5 | – | – | – | – | 5 | 5 |
| P-5 | 15 | 15 | – | – | 6 | 1 | 21 | 16 |
| P-4/3 | 37 | 37 | – | – | – | – | 37 | 37 |
| P-2/1 | 8 | 8 | – | – | 2 | – | 10 | 8 |
| **Total** | **65** | **65** | **–** | **–** | **8** | **1** | **73** | **66** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 42 | 42 | – | – | 4 | – | 46 | 42 |
| **Total** | **42** | **42** | **–** | **–** | **4** | **–** | **46** | **42** |
| **Grand total** | **107** | **107** | **–** | **–** | **12** | **1** | **119** | **108** |

20.16 Within the programme of work, the estimated percentage distribution of resources among subprogrammes would be as follows:

| Subprogramme | Regular budget | Extrabudgetary |
|---|---|---|
| | (percentage) | |
| 1. Management of natural resources and environment | 18.1 | – |
| 2. Improvement of the quality of life | 24.3 | 53.1 |
| 3. Economic development and global changes | 18.4 | – |
| 4. Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development | 26.3 | – |
| 5. Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information | 12.9 | 46.9 |
| **Total** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

## Subprogramme 1
## Management of natural resources and environment

Table 20.9 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| Object of expenditure | 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 appropriations | Resource growth | | Total before recosting | Recosting | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Amount | Percentage | | | |
| Posts | 1 797.6 | 3 850.9 | – | – | 3 850.9 | 133.3 | 3 984.2 |
| Consultants and experts | 58.8 | 176.2 | 49.8 | 28.2 | 226.0 | 22.7 | 248.7 |
| Travel | 32.5 | 56.0 | 7.0 | 12.5 | 63.0 | 3.0 | 66.0 |
| **Total** | **1 888.9** | **4 083.1** | **56.8** | **1.3** | **4 139.9** | **159.0** | **4 298.9** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 estimates | Source of funds | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects | |
| 12.0 | – | UNEP | – |
| 4.5 | 17.5 | ESCWA Trust Fund | – |
| 180.1 | – | Multilateral sources | – |
| 22.9 | – | Bilateral sources | – |
| **Total** | **219.5** | **17.5** | – |
| **Total (1) and (2)** | **2 108.4** | **4 100.6** | **4 298.9** |

Table 20.10 **Post requirements**

*Subprogramme 1. Management of natural resources and environment*

| | Established posts | | Temporary posts | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular budget | | Regular budget | | Extrabudgetary resources | | Total | |
| | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 2 | 2 | – | – | 1 | – | 3 | 2 |
| P-4/3 | 7 | 7 | – | – | – | – | 7 | 7 |
| P-2/1 | 2 | 2 | – | – | – | – | 2 | 2 |
| **Total** | **12** | **12** | **–** | **–** | **1** | **–** | **13** | **12** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 7 | 7 | – | – | – | – | 7 | 7 |
| **Total** | **7** | **7** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **7** | **7** |
| **Grand total** | **19** | **19** | **–** | **–** | **1** | **–** | **20** | **19** |

20.17 The subprogramme is implemented by the Energy, Natural Resources and Environment Division.

20.18 The subprogramme will promote the efficient and sustainable use of energy and water resources and the fostering of regional cooperation in the areas of energy, water and environment, with the ultimate objective of improving the quality of life. In this context, it will continue to address the consequences of socioeconomic development in the ESCWA region, evidenced in high population growth, pollution and rising demand for water and energy for agricultural and industrial purposes. It will also continue to promote the opening of the market to environmentally clean technologies and identifying common denominators for policy makers in the region to facilitate cooperation and strengthen linkages between the fields of energy, water and environment.

20.19 Activities will focus on the following main areas: efficient use of energy and promoting the use of renewable energy resources; rational use and conservation of scarce water resources and the provision of additional water sources using new technologies with appropriate economic energy systems (e.g., water desalination);

the role of women in conserving water resources and energy in remote areas; public participation (non-governmental organizations) in promoting water and energy sectors; the international conventions, laws and protocols, particularly the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses and other legal instruments that guide ESCWA member States with respect to their legal international rights.

20.20 The subprogramme will continue its cooperation activities aimed at strengthening national capacities in the environmental field and disseminating relevant information to assist in developing national and regional environmental profiles. The subprogramme will also address environmental legislation and enforcement aimed at improving the state of the environment in member States. Efforts will continue to integrate the environmental dimension in all ESCWA subprogrammes and to link their activities to those undertaken by other regional organizations to ensure complementarity and synergy at the regional level.

**Expected accomplishments**

20.21 The expected accomplishments include: (a) increased capacity of member States in the identification of effective technological options for water desalinization and for reducing pollution; (b) streamlining of national energy and water policies; (c) increased dissemination of data and information on water, energy and the environment; (d) improved institutional arrangements and functioning; and (e) closer regional cooperation through identification of common grounds.

**Outputs**

20.22 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing. Four meetings of the Committee on Energy and 12 meetings of the Committee on Water Resources;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation. Three reports to the Commission on: the third session of the Committee on Energy; and one each on the fourth and fifth sessions of the Committee on Water Resources;

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups. Five expert group meetings on disseminating renewable energy technologies in ESCWA member States; energy for sustainable development in ESCWA member States: efficient use of energy and greenhouse gas abatement; implication of groundwater rehabilitation for water resources protection and conservation; legal aspects of management of shared water resources in the region; and development of harmonized regional environmental impact assessment among member States.

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Fourteen non-recurrent publications. Potential and prospects for renewable energy electricity generation in the region; efficient use of energy in the building sector: an analysis of options for selected member States; options and opportunities for greenhouse gas abatement in the energy sector of the region; efficient use of energy in the industrial sector: an analysis of options for selected member States; techno-economic evaluation of energy supply options for water desalinization in the region; regional approach for disseminating renewable energy technologies; implication of groundwater rehabilitation on water resources protection and conservation: artificial recharge and water quality improvement in the region; role of desalinated water in augmentation of the water supply in selected countries; enhancement of institutional arrangements pertaining to water legislation enforcement and improvement of institutional functions in selected countries; assessment of legal aspects affecting management of shared water resources in the region; evaluation of the environmental impact assessment process in selected countries; report on the current status of environmental impact assessments: decision-

making practices in the region; development of guidelines for harmonized environmental impact assessments suitable for the region; and report of the expert group meeting on groundwater rehabilitation for water resources protection and conservation;

(ii) Technical material for outside users (databases, software, etc.). Development and maintenance of the ESCWA home page on water;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Coordination, cooperation and/or liaison with other international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations as follows: the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies in the areas of energy supply options for water desalination in the region, renewable energy, greenhouse gases abatement in the energy sector, groundwater rehabilitation, management of shared water resources and enhancement of institutional arrangement in water sector; the European Union in relation to efficient use of energy and greenhouse gas abatement in the energy sector; the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries on efficient use of energy, renewable energy, greenhouse gas abatement in the energy sector and energy supply options for water desalination; the Organization of the Islamic Conference, including the Islamic Development Bank, on the efficient use of energy, renewable energy, greenhouse gas abatement in the energy sector, energy supply options for water desalination and the enhancement of institutional arrangement pertaining to water legislation enforcement; the Arab Centre for Studies of Arid Zones and Drylands and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization on the legal aspects of management of shared water resources, groundwater rehabilitation and the establishment of an electronic database on water resources; the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment and its steering committees on desertification, industrial pollution and environmental awareness on issues, such as enhancing national capacities for adhering to international environmental conventions (i.e. climate change; desertification; biological diversity etc.), environmental indicators, information networking, environmental implications of Arab Free Trade Zone (International Organization for Standardization's 14000 Series) and other activities; the Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region on joint activities and coordination of regional approaches to environment and sustainable development; the Centre on Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe on identification of joint activities in areas of concern for both organizations; participation in the activities of the newly established Arab Regional Network on Environmental Information, including issues pertaining to shared water resources; liaising with non-governmental organizations responsible for environment in member States to strengthen their capacity and to disseminate relevant information to promote national sustainable development; and cooperation with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature to enhance regional environmental priorities in the context of global efforts to conserve nature;

(ii) Coordination and cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/Regional Office for Science and Technology for the Arab States on the management of shared water resources and the implementation of groundwater rehabilitation for water resources protection; and with the World Bank, WHO, UNEP, UNDP and FAO in the area of water supply facilities privatization and the enhancement of institutional arrangements pertaining to the development of water resources in ESCWA member States; collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and with other regional commissions and participation in the meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development and the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Water Resources.

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.23 The resource requirements of $3,850,900 at maintenance level, would cover the cost of posts as indicated in table 20.10 above.

*Consultants and experts*

20.24 The estimated requirements of $226,000, including a resource growth of $49,800, would cover the cost of: (a) consultants ($102,600) to provide specialized expertise in the areas of efficient use of energy in various sectors, including environmental impact assessment, greenhouse gas abatement, legal aspects affecting management of shared water resources, role of desalination in meeting water supply requirements; and (b) the five ad hoc expert group meetings listed above ($123,400). The increase of $49,800 includes $39,000 for additional requirements under consultants and $10,800 under expert group meetings.

*Travel*

20.25 The estimated requirements of $63,000, including a resource growth of $7,000, would provide for travel of staff required for the preparation of publications and studies, consultations with officials of the countries in the region and of regional and international organizations active in the fields of natural resources and environment, as well as attendance at meetings dealing with issues of relevance to the subprogramme.

## Subprogramme 2
## Improvement of the quality of life

Table 20.11 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| *Object of expenditure* | *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| Posts | 3 512.8 | 5 426.6 | (76.5) | (1.4) | 5 350.1 | 194.3 | 5 544.4 |
| Consultants and experts | 94.3 | 226.8 | (93.2) | (41.0) | 133.6 | 13.4 | 147.0 |
| Travel | 52.8 | 75.5 | – | – | 75.5 | 3.7 | 79.2 |
| **Total** | **3 659.9** | **5 728.9** | **(169.7)** | **(2.9)** | **5 559.2** | **211.4** | **5 770.6** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 estimates | Source of funds | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects | |
| 188.5 | 375.7 | UNDP | 255.3 |
| 1 187.9 | 1 325.8 | UNFPA | – |
| 5.5 | 0.5 | UNESCO | – |
| 58.0 | 34.0 | ESCWA | – |
| 7.5 | 13.5 | ILO | – |
| 158.8 | 174.7 | Multilateral sources | – |
| **Total** | **1 606.2** | **1 924.2** | | **255.3** |
| **Total (1) and (2)** | **5 266.1** | **7 653.1** | | **6 025.9** |

Table 20.12 **Post requirements**

*Subprogramme 2. Improvement of the quality of life*

| | Established posts | | Temporary posts | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular budget | | Regular budget | | Extrabudgetary resources | | Total | |
| | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 4 | 4 | – | – | 4 | – | 8 | 4 |
| P-4/3 | 8 | 8 | – | – | – | – | 8 | 8 |
| P-2/1 | 4 | 4 | – | – | 1 | – | 5 | 4 |
| **Total** | **17** | **17** | **–** | **–** | **5** | **–** | **22** | **17** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 11 | 10 | – | – | 1 | – | 12 | 10 |
| **Total** | **11** | **10** | **–** | **–** | **1** | **–** | **12** | **10** |
| **Grand total** | **28** | **27** | **–** | **–** | **6** | **–** | **34** | **27** |

20.26 This subprogramme is implemented by the Social Development Issues and Policies Division.

20.27 The subprogramme will focus on promoting regional cooperation in furthering sustainable human development by advocating an integrated regional approach for follow-up to the recommendations of global conferences. To meet this objective, it will pursue a holistic approach to the right to development and mainstreaming a gender perspective into plans and programmes, with the ultimate objective of improving the quality of life.

20.28 In this connection, the subprogamme will serve as an early warning system for member States on the implications of social change by providing assistance and raising awareness with regard to the challenges in the next millennium and current issues of concern in the following priority areas: social impact of globalization, with particular reference to the labour market and employment as well as tools for alleviating

poverty; social and environmental impact of urbanization, including housing and human settlements; social and demographic impact of international migration; gender roles and partnership in the family, including youth; governance and institutions of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and community development; and reproductive health, which will be addressed for the first time.

20.29 The subprogramme will continue to build a gender-sensitive database on social policies and measures of impact on population, human development, human settlements and women and gender, together with demographic data sheets. In this context, it will expand into developing indicators for monitoring of and following up to global conferences. It will also continue addressing issues pertaining to the advancement of women and their participation in the development process, through gender mainstreaming, by formulating a new vision for gender equality for the third millennium. Issues pertaining to governance and advocacy in civil society will also continue to be at the core of this subprogramme. In this respect, while, in the past, emphasis was placed on the assessment of non-governmental organizations, emphasis will now be placed on their role in follow-up to the recommendations of global conferences whereby the activities will promote a participatory approach and synergy between the non-governmental organizations and national governmental bodies. Poverty will also be a pivotal issue under this subprogramme, but the emphasis will be shifted from characteristics of poverty, which were addressed during the biennium 1998–1999, to prescribing tools for poverty alleviation, such as micro-credit facilities and social funds. Issues pertaining to the family and partnership, youth and selected marginalized groups within the framework of social integration will continue to be addressed. The subprogramme will also continue to tackle issues pertaining to the environmental, social and physical impact of urbanization.

20.30 In formulating the above-mentioned priorities, attempts were made to link programmed activities with those outlined in a three-year extrabudgetary flagship project on integrated follow-up to global conferences, which was formulated by ESCWA and supported by UNDP, to forge a regional link for Arab States between the global vision and national endeavours to pursue the recommendations of global conferences. The project, put into effect in October 1998, also builds on inputs of other relevant United Nations organizations.

**Expected accomplishments**

20.31 By the end of the biennium 2000-2001, the subprogramme is expected to have identified tools for alleviating poverty and facilitated their adoption by Governments as policy instruments. This, in turn, is expected to lead to increased contribution of women to the gross national products; provision of low-cost housing; and setting up of micro-credit lending facilities. Furthermore, the subprogramme is expected to have strengthened the capacity of member States to use new indicators for monitoring and follow-up to United Nations global conferences in their reports and plans of action and to have raised their awareness with regard to the importance of adopting action-oriented policies relating to gender, population, urbanization, employment and other critical issues within the context of integrated follow-up to global conferences. Within this context, it is expected also that increased cooperation between governmental organizations and institutions of civil society will have been developed and training provided for building the capacity of the institutions of civil society.

**Outputs**

20.32 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies (RB/XB)*

(i) Substantive servicing. Six meetings of the Committee on Social Development;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation. Two reports to the Economic and Social Council on: economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan; and one to the Commission on the third session of the Committee on Social Development;

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups. Two expert group meetings on dynamics of sustainable social development, interlinkages with migration, poverty and urbanization and appropriate technology for accessing population information in the region;

(iv) Regional meeting on progress made in the implementation of integrated regional follow-up by the Arab States to United Nations global conferences; and two round tables on approaches and tools to alleviate poverty and people-centred sustainable development (micro-credits and social funds);

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Ten recurrent publications: Demographic and related socio-economic data sheets (No. 11); Population Bulletin (Nos. 48 and 49); sustainable human development report of the ESCWA region; studies on women and development series; gender and citizenship and the role of non-governmental organizations in conflict-stricken ESCWA countries: case study of Lebanon and/or Yemen; newsletter on integrated regional follow-up by the Arab States to United Nations global conferences: progress achieved (4); two news bulletins on human settlements in the Arab world;

(ii) Twelve non-recurrent publications. Migration and population policies in ESCWA member States; annotated bibliography on Arab families; role of micro-credit and/or social development funds in poverty alleviation; role of globalization in labour market development, with emphasis on education and employment of youth; female-headed households in selected conflict-stricken countries: an exploratory survey for formulating poverty alleviation policies; towards partnership in the Arab family: gender roles, values and identity; civil society actors and sustainable urban development: the situation in the ESCWA region; municipalities and decentralization: issues of governance in the ESCWA region; urbanization, environment and sustainable human settlements development in the ESCWA region; and cities and social exclusion: towards social integration in the ESCWA region;

(iii) Electronic, audio and video issuances: media campaigns on gender and gender mainstreaming in relation to the impact of global conferences on the quality of life, in cooperation with the Information Service under executive direction and management;

(iv) Booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits. Pamphlets, brochures and wall charts on the impact of global conferences on quality of life; development of technical notes, indicators, guidelines, and other material on selected themes, including good practices and success stories, relevant to integrated regional follow-up by the Arab States to United Nations global conferences;

(v) Technical material (databases, software, etc.): Development and maintenance of the ESCWA home page to raise awareness of the impact of global conferences on the quality of life; database on the gender-sensitive regional information system on policies and measures and specific social indicators for monitoring integrated follow-up to global conferences; and the ESCWA Population Information Network (POPIN) home page;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Participation and coordination of activities with the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies including the Arab Labour Organization, the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations and others to follow up on United Nations global conferences;

(ii) Coordination of activities with the United Nations Secretariat, in particular the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDP, UNIFEM, INSTRAW, UNRISD, UNEP, HABITAT, UNFPA, ILO and other United Nations agencies; participation in meetings of the Commission on Status of Women, the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Social Development and the Administrative Committee on Coordination Inter-agency Committee on Gender;

(iii) Participation and coordination with the Ad Hoc Inter-agency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections in the production of demographic estimates and projections for the region;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Technical assistance. Assistance to selected countries in: promoting follow-up to global conferences in relation to the use of the regional information system and relevant indicators for follow-up actions; computer Braille and income-generating activities for the blind; community-based rehabilitation; and the setting up of networks and mechanisms for sustainable human development;

(ii) Group training. Training workshop on social indicators;

(iii) Field projects. Community development services;

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.33 The resource requirements of $5,350,100, reflecting a decrease of $76,500, relate to the posts indicated in table 20.12. The decrease is the result of the outward redeployment of one Local level post to subprogramme 3, Economic development and global changes, in order to strengthen the activities carried out in that subprogramme on transnational corporations and related issues.

*Consultants and experts*

20.34 The estimated requirements of $133,600, reflecting a decrease of $93,200, relate to (a) consultants ($97,600) to provide specialized expertise for the preparation of the two reports to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council and inputs to publications and studies, such as the reports on sustainable human development, the role of globalization in labour market development and migration and population policies; and (b) the cost of one expert group meeting on appropriate technology for accessing population information in the ESCWA region ($36,000). The decrease of $93,200 is the net result of reduced requirements for ad hoc expert group meetings ($127,200) and additional requirements for consultants ($34,000).

*Travel*

20.35 The estimated requirements of $75,500, at maintenance level, would provide for travel of staff for consultations with Governments, collection of data for preparation of reports and participation at meetings of United Nations bodies and regional organizations of relevance to the programme of work.

## Subprogramme 3
## Economic development and global changes

Table 20.13 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| *Object of expenditure* | *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| Posts | 4 046.0 | 3 866.3 | 76.5 | 1.9 | 3 942.8 | 134.2 | 4 077.0 |
| Consultants and experts | 265.9 | 133.4 | 93.5 | 70.0 | 226.9 | 22.8 | 249.7 |
| Travel | 81.5 | 34.9 | 12.0 | 34.3 | 46.9 | 2.3 | 49.2 |
| **Total** | **4 393.4** | **4 034.6** | **182.0** | **4.5** | **4 216.6** | **159.3** | **4 375.9** |

Table 20.14 **Post requirements**

*Subprogramme 3. Economic development and global changes*

| | *Established posts* | | *Temporary posts* | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Regular budget* | | *Regular budget* | | *Extrabudgetary resources* | | *Total* | |
| | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* | *1998–1999* | *2000–2001* |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 3 | 3 | – | – | – | – | 3 | 3 |
| P-4/3 | 7 | 7 | – | – | – | – | 7 | 7 |
| P-2/1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| **Total** | **12** | **12** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **12** | **12** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 6 | 7 | – | – | – | – | 6 | 7 |
| **Total** | **6** | **7** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **6** | **7** |
| **Grand total** | **18** | **19** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **18** | **19** |

20.36 This subprogramme is implemented by the Economic Development Issues and Policies Division. Its objectives will be to promote awareness among member States of macroeconomic management and development issues and to enhance the capacity of the countries in the region to meet the challenges of globalization. Within this framework, the programme of work will support member States in meeting the requirements of sustainable development by increasing understanding of linkages between trade and environment and the challenges of globalization by assessing the impact of their liberalization policies and in enhancing their development by promoting alternative sources of investment .

20.37 Emphasis will be given to the review and analysis of macroeconomic developments and the impact of instability in oil prices and revenues on economic performance in the region and prospects for diversification of their economies. The programme of work will be concerned with mobilizing financial resources and studying the prospects for mobilizing foreign direct investment and will continue to follow up on the implementation of the New Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the 1990s.

20.38 In a number of areas, the work programme for 2000–2001 will also continue with some activities initiated in earlier work programmes. This will include the challenges and opportunities created by the World Trade Organization, with focus on competition laws and policies; the impact of liberalization, with emphasis on the new role of the State, and comparative analysis of the role of the private sector in economic development. Also, as a continuation of efforts to address the implications of economic grouping (following studies on Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the Single European Market), the subprogramme will now examine the implications of the euro-currency for ESCWA member States. New areas of concern will include electronic commerce; financial reporting, with emphasis on effective accounting and auditing practices; external debt management; examination and assessment of Arab free trade and free zones; and, in the area of governance, enhancing macroeconomic management.

**Expected accomplishments**

20.39 By the end of the biennium 2000–2001, the expected accomplishments will include: (a) increased awareness of macroeconomic issues and policies; (b) expanded understanding of World Trade Organization issues and of liberalization of financial markets; (c) improved ability to attract foreign investment; (d) increased

understanding of linkages between trade and environment; and (e) enhanced development of the technical capacity of the member States to improve the competitiveness of their economies.

**Outputs**

20.40 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of 12 meetings of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade and Economic Globalization in the Countries of the ESCWA Region;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation. Two reports to the Commission on the second and third sessions of the Technical Committee; two summary reports of the *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region*;

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups. Three expert group meetings on: economic diversification in oil producing countries; trade facilitation and electronic commerce in the ESCWA region; and identification of common grounds in selected ESCWA countries in approaches to competition laws and policy questions;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Seven recurrent publications: *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region* (2); part II of the *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region: role of the globalized economy and comparative analysis of the private sector in the ESCWA region*; preliminary overview of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA region (2); and review and appraisal of progress made by the Republic of Yemen in the implementation of the New Programme of Action for the least developed countries for the 1990s;

(ii) Twenty-one non-recurrent publications: Impact of the world oil markets on the economies of Gulf Cooperation Council countries: quantitative assessment and forecast; good governance: enhancing macro-economic management in selected countries; application of sustainable development indicators in the member States: analysis of results; economic diversification in oil-producing countries; globalization of financial markets: implication for the region; trade facilitation and electronic commerce in the region; trade in services in selected countries; implications of the euro-currency for the economies of the ESCWA region; external debt management in selected countries; World Trade Organization implications, opportunities and challenges for member States: selected issues; assessment of free trade areas in the ESCWA region; trade and environment in the ESCWA region: selected issues; competition laws in the ESCWA region; flow of foreign direct investment in the ESCWA region: data and analysis; comparative study of national strategies and policies with respect to foreign direct investment in selected countries; economic diversification in oil producing countries; trade facilitation and electronic commerce in the ESCWA region; and identification of common grounds in selected ESCWA countries in approaches to competition laws and policy questions;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Cooperation with the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies on economic, trade and finance issues;

(ii) Strengthening cooperation, coordination and liaison with UNCTAD and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs as stipulated by mandates emanating from the General Assembly in this regard; identifying areas for joint implementation of activities; especially in relation to World Trade Organization issues, trade and environment, trade facilitation and free trade areas; attending the meetings of the Development Planning Commission; attending UNCTAD meetings and contribution on latest developments in the ESCWA region.

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.41 The resource requirements of $3,942,800, reflecting an increase of $76,500, relate to the posts indicated in table 20.14. The increase of $76,500 is the result of the proposed inward redeployment of one Local level post from subprogramme 2, Improvement of the quality of life, to this subprogramme in support of the activities on transnational corporations programme, in particular as regards compilation and tabulation of data.

*Consultants and experts*

20.42 The estimated requirements of $226,900, reflecting an increase of $93,500, would cover the cost of (a) consultants fees and travel ($148,300) to provide expertise not available within the secretariat in the preparation of reports and publications such as two issues of the *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region* dealing, respectively, with the role of the State in the globalized economy and the role of the private sector in the ESCWA region; competition laws in the ESCWA region; comparative study of national strategies and policies with respect to foreign direct investment in selected countries, etc; and (b) the convening of the expert group meetings listed above ($78,600). The increase of $93,500 is the net result of additional requirements of $100,900 for consultants offset by a reduction of $7,400 for the expert group meetings.

*Travel*

20.43 The estimated requirements of $46,900, reflecting an increase of $12,000, relate to travel of staff for consultations with Governments and intergovernmental organizations, collection of data, participation at meetings and coordination with the specialized agencies and United Nations offices and departments, including other regional commissions, and UNCTAD.

## Subprogramme 4
## Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development

Table 20.15 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| *Object of expenditure* | *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| Posts | 1 863.1 | 5 637.7 | – | – | 5 637.7 | 179.9 | 5 817.6 |
| Consultants and experts | 129.6 | 267.2 | 26.4 | 9.8 | 293.6 | 29.5 | 323.1 |
| Travel | 37.6 | 73.3 | – | – | 73.3 | 3.5 | 76.8 |
| **Total** | **2 030.3** | **5 978.2** | **26.4** | **0.4** | **6 004.6** | **212.9** | **6 217.5** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 estimates | Source of funds | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects | |
| 23.6 | 6.5 | UNDP | – |
| 9.2 | 1.7 | ESCWA Trust Fund | – |
| 61.5 | 20.5 | Multilateral sources | – |
| 16.6 | – | Bilateral sources | – |
| **110.9** | **28.7** | **Total** | **–** |
| **2 141.2** | **6 006.9** | **Total (1) and (2)** | **6 217.5** |

Table 20.16 **Post requirements**

*Subprogramme 4. Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development*

| | Established posts | | Temporary posts | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular budget | | Regular budget | | Extrabudgetary resources | | Total | |
| | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 4 | 4 | – | – | – | – | 4 | 4 |
| P-4/3 | 12 | 12 | – | – | – | – | 12 | 12 |
| **Total** | **17** | **17** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **17** | **17** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 9 | 9 | – | – | – | – | 9 | 9 |
| **Total** | **9** | **9** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **9** | **9** |
| **Grand total** | **26** | **26** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **26** | **26** |

20.44 This subprogramme is implemented by the Sectoral Issues and Policies Division. It will promote measures and policies to increase competitiveness and productivity in ESCWA member States in the areas of industry, technology, transport and agriculture and to improve regional cooperation through the promotion of harmonization of standards, the adoption of legal instruments and the strengthening of the capabilities of countries of the region in sectoral policy formulation.

20.45 While, during the biennium 1998–1999, emphasis was on identifying areas of possible cooperation, coordination and harmonization and initiating action in this respect in the areas of industry, technology, transport and agriculture, the emphasis during the biennium 2000–2001 will be on promoting integrated policies to enhance sectoral productivity and competitiveness for sustainable development in the context of increasing globalization trends. This would be achieved, among other things, through (a) human resources development in areas where capacity-building is needed, such as on-farm water use and efficiency, evaluation of agricultural and industrial policies and micro-credit schemes to alleviate rural poverty; (b) examination of certain impacts of globalization, whereby the implications of the General Agreement on

Trade in Services (World Trade Organization) on transport would be examined; (c) facilitation of procedures and practices affecting the physical and information flows and networking and exchanging relevant information and experiences among establishments concerned, including electronic-commerce, the Geographical Information System (GIS) and an integrated transport system in the Arab Mashreq; (d) promotion of appropriate environmentally sound technologies and technological policies to increase efficiency and productivity, with emphasis on water desalination and water treatment and the application of advanced technologies in transport and communication; (e) and initiating proposals for regional and subregional agreements in the various sectors by identifying common grounds and benefits and examining prospects for harmonization of food and agriculture policies, the impact of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), harmonization of sectoral norms, standards and legal instruments, the development of a framework for an integrated transport system and the facilitation of transport practices and procedures.

**Expected accomplishments**

20.46 The main accomplishments of this subprogramme will include: (a) enhanced awareness by member States of developing policies and enhancing their capacities to improve sectoral productivity and competitiveness in selected areas; (b) increased regional awareness and acceptance of the importance of adopting harmonized standards; (c) facilitation of harmonized policies through the conclusion of regional and subregional agreements; (d) raising awareness of member States with regard to the implications of globalization on certain sectors and providing policy recommendations in this regard; and (e) wider dissemination of timely information and data on sectoral policies that would facilitate decisions of policy makers.

**Outputs**

20.47 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing of four meetings of the Committee on Transport;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation. Report to the Commission on the second session of the Committee on Transport;

(iii) Eight ad hoc expert groups on: coordination of industrial policies to increase productivity and competitiveness within the global trends; harmonization of industrial norms, regulations and legal instruments for regional cooperation; coordination of transport policies to facilitate trans-boundary flows within the global trends; harmonization of transport norms, regulations and legal instruments for regional cooperation; harmonization of agricultural norms, regulations and legal instruments for regional cooperation; coordination of agricultural policies to increase productivity and competitiveness within the global trends; coordination of technology policies to increase productivity and competitiveness within the global trends: technology initiatives in ESCWA member States; and capacity-building in pavement management systems;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Nine recurrent publications. Industry review in ESCWA countries (bulletin Nos. 3 and 4); science and technology review in ESCWA countries (bulletin Nos. 3 and 4); directory of research and development and research and development support institutions in ESCWA member States (bulletin No. 2); transport review in ESCWA countries (bulletin Nos. 3 and 4); agricultural review in ESCWA countries (bulletin Nos. 3 and 4);

(ii) Twenty-five non-recurrent publications. Review of industrial strategies and policies: preparing for the twenty-first century; potential of small and medium-sized enterprises for innovation in selected ESCWA countries; impact of the application of the International Organization for Standardization 9000 and 14000 Series on selected industrial sectors: case studies; assessment

of free zones: industrial and transport aspects (selected case studies); financial schemes for small and medium-sized enterprises in the ESCWA region; directory of support institutions for small and medium-sized enterprises in selected ESCWA countries; mainstreaming a gender perspective into selected productive and services sectors; methodology for the assessment of competitiveness of selected existing industries; technology initiatives in the ESCWA member States; environmentally sound technologies in selected sectors; water desalination and water treatment technologies in ESCWA member States, new technologies for enhancing competitiveness and productivity in selected sectors; study on harmonization of technology norms, regulations and legal instruments for regional cooperation: project planning and management for quality assurance personnel; multilateral agreement for an integrated transport system in the Arab Mashreq countries; implications of the General Agreement on Trade in Services on transport; development of a comprehensive framework for the analysis of the ESCWA integrated transport network; assessment of transport flows and infrastructure in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries; transport facilitation and electronic commerce in the ESCWA region; application of advanced information technologies in transport and communications; assessment of past experiences in using the Policy Analysis Matrix (PAM) in selected ESCWA countries; enhancing the productivity and rationalization of use of agricultural resources: on-farm water use efficiency; harmonization of norms, standards and legal instruments for selected agricultural inputs; micro-credit and micro-finance schemes to alleviate rural poverty in ESCWA member States; prospects for harmonization of food and agricultural policies in selected ESCWA countries; information systems for modernizing the operations of rural financial institutions in selected ESCWA member States;

(iii) Booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits. Regional map for an integrated transport system for the Arab Mashreq countries;

(iv) Technical material (database, software, etc). Home pages of ESCWA industrial, technology, transport and agricultural activities and GIS in transport;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Cooperation with the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies on industrial, transport and agricultural development issues; with the International Organization for Standardization on certification, accreditation, technology management and training; with the International Development Research Centre on activities related to technological capacity-building; with the Islamic Development Bank/Organization of the Islamic Conference on activities related to transport and technological capacity-building; with the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Transport Research Laboratory on transport infrastructure and safety issues respectively; and with the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas on on-farm water level efficiency issues;

(ii) Coordination, cooperation and liaison with UNIDO, UNDP, UNCTAD, DESA, ILO, ICAO, FAO, UNESCO/Regional Office for Science and Technology for the Arab States, UNIFEM, the other regional commissions and the World Bank, in relevant areas of transport; science and technology, agriculture, capacity-building and training, entrepreneurship and small and medium-sized enterprises;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services to ESCWA member States on technology policies and initiatives in selected areas; and technical assistance to member States in transport planning and management;

(ii) Training workshop on capacity-building in on-farm water use efficiency;

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.48 The resource requirements of $5,637,700, at maintenance level, relate to the posts indicated in table 20.16 above.

*Consultants and experts*

20.49 The estimated requirements of $293,600, reflecting an increase of $26,400, would cover the cost of (a) consultants fees and travel ($101,400), to provide specialized expertise on issues such as assessment of free zones, technology initiatives in the ESCWA member States and mainstreaming a gender perspective into selected productive and services sectors, as well as in the preparation of a number of publications/studies; and (b) the eight expert group meetings listed above ($192,200). The increase of $26,400 is due to additional requirements for consultants ($12,700) and for expert group meetings ($13,700).

*Travel*

20.50 The estimated requirements of $73,300, at maintenance level, would provide for travel of staff for consultations with Governments and intergovernmental organizations, collection of data and participation and coordination with other regional commissions, the specialized agencies and United Nations offices and departments.

## Subprogramme 5
## Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information

Table 20.17 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| *Object of expenditure* | *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| Posts | 1 999.4 | 2 709.3 | – | – | 2 709.3 | 121.6 | 2 830.9 |
| Other staff costs | – | – | 28.4 | – | 28.4 | 2.9 | 31.3 |
| Consultants and experts | 44.7 | 190.2 | (28.4) | (14.9) | 161.8 | 16.3 | 178.1 |
| Travel | 15.6 | 24.3 | 17.0 | 69.9 | 41.3 | 2.0 | 43.3 |
| **Total** | **2 059.7** | **2 923.8** | **17.0** | **0.5** | **2 940.8** | **142.8** | **3 083.6** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 estimates | Source of funds | 2000–2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects: | |
| 61.1 | 852.9 | UNDP | 225.9 |
| 9.0 | 9.6 | UNICEF | – |
| 8.8 | 102.0 | ESCWA Trust Fund | – |
| 73.7 | 19.2 | World Bank | – |
| 2.0 | – | ILO | – |
| 59.3 | 123.3 | Multilateral sources | – |
| 6.5 | 10.0 | Bilateral sources | – |
| **Total** | **220.4** | **1 117.0** | **225.9** |
| **Total (1) and (2)** | **2 280.1** | **4 040.8** | **3 309.5** |

Table 20.18 **Post requirements**

*Subprogramme 5. Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information*

| | Established posts | | Temporary posts | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular budget | | Regular budget | | Extrabudgetary resources | | Total | |
| | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 | 1998–1999 | 2000–2001 |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| P-5 | 2 | 2 | – | – | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| P-4/3 | 3 | 3 | – | – | – | – | 3 | 3 |
| P-2/1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| **Total** | **7** | **7** | **–** | **–** | **1** | **1** | **8** | **8** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 9 | 9 | – | – | 2 | – | 11 | 9 |
| **Total** | **9** | **9** | **–** | **–** | **2** | **–** | **11** | **9** |
| **Grand total** | **16** | **16** | **–** | **–** | **3** | **1** | **19** | **17** |

20.51 This subprogramme is implemented by the Statistics Division. During the biennium 1998–1999, special emphasis was placed on improving the dissemination of regional statistics through the use of advanced information technology. While continuing to provide regional comparable statistics and indicators needed for assessing and monitoring progress achieved in sustainable development in the ESCWA region, during the biennium 2000–2001, the subprogramme will concentrate on upgrading these services to better respond to the renewed and growing interest in statistics and indicators covering a wide range of economic, social and, for the first time, environmental concerns associated with sustainable development.

20.52 Another principal area of work for this subprogramme will be to continue to develop regional statistics and promote international statistical classifications, standards and systems, including gender statistics. By closely working with Governments of the region and in cooperation with regional and international organizations,

the programme of work will strive to improve the national capabilities needed to apply new information technologies and effect the statistical changes or adjustments needed to cope with the requirements emerging from recommendations of United Nations global conferences and to adopt and implement the latest developments in internationally recognized statistical concepts, standards and classifications. The ultimate objective resides in enhancing the collection and dissemination of statistics in the ESCWA region with improved reliability, validity, timeliness and international comparability. As follow-up to the current project on development of national gender statistics programme in the Arab countries, particular attention will be given to the propagation of gender-sensitive statistics.

20.53 Extrabudgetary resources foreseen for this subprogramme will be rallied to support two main mandates within the United Nations system: the provision of gender statistics and the Common Country Assessment/Minimum National Social Data Set (CCA/MNSDS) necessary for following up to the recommendations of global conferences.

**Expected accomplishments**

20.54 The main expected accomplishments will include: faster and more efficient access to ESCWA statistical information by end-users; concise and harmonized statistical data by restructuring and consolidating ESCWA publications; implementation by ESCWA member States of the 1993 System of National Accounts and the Common Country Assessment/Minimum National Social Data Set (CCA/MNSDS); increased awareness of gender statistics by the countries of the region; and adoption of international statistical classifications and standards in the economic area by the central statistical organizations.

**Outputs**

20.55 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following activities will be undertaken:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Substantive servicing. Six meetings of the Statistical Committee;

(ii) Parliamentary documentation. Report to the Commission on the fourth session of the Statistical Committee;

(iii) Six ad hoc expert group meetings on: foreign trade statistics in the ESCWA region; social indicators; economically active population: employment, unemployment and under employment; links between the balance of payments and the 1993 System of National Accounts; industrial statistics; and gender statistics.

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Thirteen recurrent publications: *Bulletin on Vital Statistics in ESCWA Member States*, Nos. 3 and 4; *Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region*, Nos. 20 and 21; *Bulletin of National Accounts*, Nos. 20 and 21; *External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region*, No. 10; *Compendium of Social Statistics*, No. 4; *Bulletin of Industrial Statistics*, No. 5; and *Statistical Newsletter* (four issues);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. *Manual on social indicators*;

(iii) Booklets, pamphlets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits. Wall charts on women and men: the changing role of Arab women; and quality of life: selected social indicators;

(iv) Technical material (databases, software, etc). Development and maintenance of databases on regional social indicators; on energy, water and environment; on national accounts; on labour force statistics; on gender statistics in Arab countries; on prices and financial statistics; on industrial statistics; and on the development of an ESCWA statistics home page and of the ESCWA statistical information system;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Participation and cooperation in the Statistical Economic and Social Research and Training Center for Islamic countries; Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics; Standing Technical Committee of the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies; Statistical Committee of Council of Arab Economic Unity; International Statistical Institute; Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts; United Nations Statistical Commission; ILO, and the annual sessions of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Statistics;

(ii) Cooperation/coordination with the Statistical Division in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; the regional commissions, etc.

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Backstopping of regional advisory services on national accounts and economic statistics, electronic data-processing and household surveys;

(ii) Training workshop on social indicators;

(iii) Two projects on: poverty information and monitoring system: Republic of Yemen; and development of a national gender statistics programme in the Arab countries;

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.56 The resource requirements of $2,709,300, at maintenance level, relate to the posts indicated in table 20.18 above.

*Other staff costs*

20.57 An estimated new provision of $28,400 would be required for general temporary assistance in order to update data entry and strengthen the operation of ESCWA's statistical information system.

*Consultants and experts*

20.58 An estimated provision of $161,800, reflecting a decrease of $28,400, would be required for consultants ($26,600) to provide specialized expertise needed to prepare case studies on issues such as employment, unemployment and underemployment; social indicators; gender statistics; links between the balance of payments and the 1993 System of National Accounts, etc; and the six expert groups meeting ($135,200) mentioned above. The decrease of $28,400 includes decreases of $2,800 for consultants and $25,600 under expert group meetings.

*Travel*

20.59 The estimated requirements of $41,300, including a resource growth of $17,000, would provide for consultations with government officials, collection of data and coordination and participation in meetings with organizations active in the field of statistical activities within or outside the United Nations system.

# D. Programme support

Table 20.19 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

| *Object of expenditure* | *1996-1997 expenditures* | *1998-1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000-2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| Posts | 12 041.2 | 16 739.9 | 1 478.1 | 8.8 | 18 218.0 | 1 323.6 | 19 541.6 |
| Other staff costs | 174.0 | 410.0 | 453.9 | 110.7 | 863.9 | 86.7 | 950.6 |
| Consultants and experts | 27.3 | 34.2 | 29.8 | 87.1 | 64.0 | 6.5 | 70.5 |
| Travel | 61.9 | 69.8 | 20.0 | 28.6 | 89.8 | 4.4 | 94.2 |
| Contractual services | 293.8 | 440.8 | 459.1 | 104.1 | 899.9 | 90.3 | 990.2 |
| General operating expenses | 1 968.1 | 4 301.4 | (728.1) | (16.9) | 3 573.3 | 358.6 | 3 931.9 |
| Hospitality | 0.6 | 18.0 | – | – | 18.0 | 1.8 | 19.8 |
| Supplies and materials | 604.4 | 681.8 | 82.0 | 12.0 | 763.8 | 76.7 | 840.5 |
| Furniture and equipment | 896.6 | 983.6 | (218.6) | (22.2) | 765.0 | 76.8 | 841.8 |
| **Total** | **16 067.9** | **23 679.5** | **1 576.2** | **6.6** | **25 255.7** | **2 025.4** | **27 281.1** |

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

| *1996-1997 expenditures* | *1998-1999 estimates* | *Source of funds* | *2000-2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (a) Services in support of: | |
| – | – | (i) United Nations organizations | – |
| – | – | (ii) Extrabudgetary activities | – |
| – | – | (b) Substantive activities | – |
| | | (c) Operational projects: | |
| 1 168.1 | 787.3 | ESCWA Trust Fund | – |
| 56.7 | 5.7 | Multilateral sources | – |
| **1 224.8** | **793.0** | **Total** | **–** |
| **17 292.7** | **24 472.5** | **Total (1) and (2)** | **27 281.1** |

Table 20.20 **Post requirements**

*Programme support*

| | *Established posts* | | *Temporary posts* | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Regular budget* | | *Regular budget* | | *Extrabudgetary resources* | | *Total* | |
| | *1998-1999* | *2000-2001* | *1998-1999* | *2000-2001* | *1998-1999* | *2000-2001* | *1998-1999* | *2000-2001* |
| **Professional category and above** | | | | | | | | |
| D-1 | 2 | 2 | – | – | – | – | 2 | 2 |
| P-5 | 4 | 5 | – | – | – | – | 4 | 5 |
| P-4/3 | 19 | 21 | – | – | – | – | 19 | 21 |
| P-2/1 | 6 | 7 | – | – | – | – | 6 | 7 |
| **Total** | **31** | **35** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **31** | **35** |
| **Other categories** | | | | | | | | |
| Local level | 107 | 112 | – | – | – | – | 107 | 112 |
| Field Service | 3 | 3 | – | – | – | – | 3 | 3 |
| **Total** | **110** | **115** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **110** | **115** |
| **Grand total** | **141** | **150** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **141** | **150** |

20.60 Programme support comprises the Administrative Services Division, including conference and library services and the Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division. The latter Division will be carrying out the functions of the former Programme Planning and Coordination Unit and the Technical Cooperation Division.

**Outputs**

20.61 The outputs of the Administrative Services Division include the following:

(a) Providing administrative direction and all appropriate support services (including human resources management, financial, general services, conference, electronic data-processing and library services) to the secretariat of ESCWA;

(b) Advising the Executive Secretary on all administrative, management, security and organizational matters;

(c) Conducting staff/management relations;

(d) Providing Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) coordination;

(e) Administering the implementation of the headquarters agreement signed between the United Nations and the host Government;

(f) Providing common service arrangements for ESCWA and other United Nations offices and agencies occupying the ESCWA headquarters building (United Nations House).

20.62 The outputs of the new Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division include the following:

(a) Planning, monitoring and evaluating ESCWA regular budget and extrabudgetary activities and technical cooperation programmes;

(b) Promoting development assistance activities and projects commensurate with the needs of the region;

(c) Providing, through a pool of highly qualified experts, advisory and technical cooperation services to member States and technical support to the substantive divisions of the Commission.

**Resource requirements (at current rates)**

*Posts*

20.63 The resource requirements of $18,218,000, reflecting an increase of $1,478,100, relate to 35 posts in the Professional category, 112 Local level posts and three Field Service posts, as shown in table 20.20 above. The increase is the result of the proposed upgrading of one P-3 post to the P-4 level in order to reflect the higher responsibility of the P-3 post as a result of the rising need for automation, electronic data-processing and communications and the increasing complexity of the work in this area, and the inward redeployment from executive direction and management of one P-5, one P-4, one P-3, one P-2 and five Local level posts attached to the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit which, it is proposed, should be merged with the Technical Cooperation Division to form the Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division, pursuant to a recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

*Other staff costs*

20.64 An estimated provision of $863,900, reflecting an increase of $453,900, would be required as follows: (a) $293,000 for general temporary assistance to cover the replacement of staff on extended sick and maternity leave, as well as additional assistance during peak workload periods ($72,000) and to provide continuing support for IMIS operations subsequent to the completion of installation ($221,000); (b) $125,300 for overtime during peak periods of work; and (c) $445,600, to provide full round-the-clock contractual security coverage for the new building and parking areas in Beirut. The increase of $453,900 includes $221,000 for IMIS support and maintenance and $232,900 for additional requirements for security services.

*Consultants and experts*

20.65 The estimated requirements of $64,000, reflecting an increase of $29,800, would cover the cost of specialized expertise in such fields as medical expertise, legal services on a retainer basis and consultancies for videoconferencing and integration into the satellite communications system. The increase is due to additional requirements for videoconferencing.

*Travel*

20.66 The estimated requirements of $89,800, including an increase of $20,000, would provide for travel of staff for consultations on administrative, personnel, budget and finance, procurement, security matters and technical cooperation management. The increase of $20,000 would be redeployed from executive direction and management, where it was previously approved for the Programme Planning and Coordination Unit.

*Contractual services*

20.67 An estimated provision of $899,900, reflecting an increase of $459,100, would be required as follows: (a) $115,800 for part-time language teachers; (b) $126,300 for external editing, printing, translation and binding of a number of publications; (c) $287,600 for electronic data-processing services; and (d) $370,200 for outsourcing the services of telephone operators, messengers and related support functions. The increase of $459,100 results from the requirements for outsourcing the services ($370,200) and additional requirements ($88,900) for special software services, such as GIS, Statistical analyses, leased Internet subscription lines, Web Mirror.

*General operating expenses*

20.68 An estimated provision of $3,573,300, reflecting a decrease of $728,100, would be required as follows: (a) $1,141,600, reflecting a decrease of $869,600, for maintenance of premises, including maintenance supplies; (b) $996,200, reflecting a decrease of $54,900, for utilities (electricity, water, fuel, oil for boiler and standby generators); (c) $217,900, including a resource growth of $25,900, for rental and maintenance of furniture, office and electronic data-processing equipment; (d) $873,300, including a resource growth of $40,500, for communications including telephone, fax, postage and pouches; (e) $186,800, including a resource growth of $130,000, for maintenance of office automation equipment, photocopiers, reproduction

and other equipment; and (f) $157,500, at maintenance level, for miscellaneous services to cover freight and related costs (clearance) and general insurance.

*Hospitality*

20.69 An estimated provision of $18,000, at maintenance level, would be required for official functions and hospitality held in connection with the ESCWA ministerial session, meetings of intergovernmental bodies, the visits of high-level government officials and other special events.

*Supplies and materials*

20.70 An estimated provision of $763,800, including a resource growth of $82,000, would be required for office supplies, photocopy paper, materials for electronic data-processing and internal printing, library books, subscriptions and supplies.

*Furniture and equipment*

20.71 An estimated provision of $765,000, reflecting a decrease $218,600, would be required for acquisition and replacement of electronic data-processing, reproduction, transportation and communications equipment.

Table 20.21 **Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the internal and external oversight bodies and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
|---|---|
| **Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions** (A/52/7, Chap. II, Part V) | |
| The Committee recommends that the format of presentation of programmes of activities of the regional commissions should be reviewed with a view to delineating more clearly substantive activities vis-à-vis programme support and harmonizing the budget presentation (paras. V.4 and V.80). | An effort has been made in this proposed programme budget to harmonize the format of presentation of the programme of activities of the regional commissions. The new presentation concerns a standardized presentation of the parts on executive direction and management and programme support. In each section of the regional commissions, the part on executive direction and management now includes the activities and resources related to the Office of the Executive Secretary, the Secretary of the Commission and the unit/structure dealing with information services. Similarly the part on programme support includes the activities and resources related to (a) administrative and common services (including programme planning, budget and finance; human resources management; general services); (b) conference and library services; and (c) management of technical cooperation. The format of presentation of the parts on policy-making organs and programme of work has been always harmonized and heretofore has not been modified. |

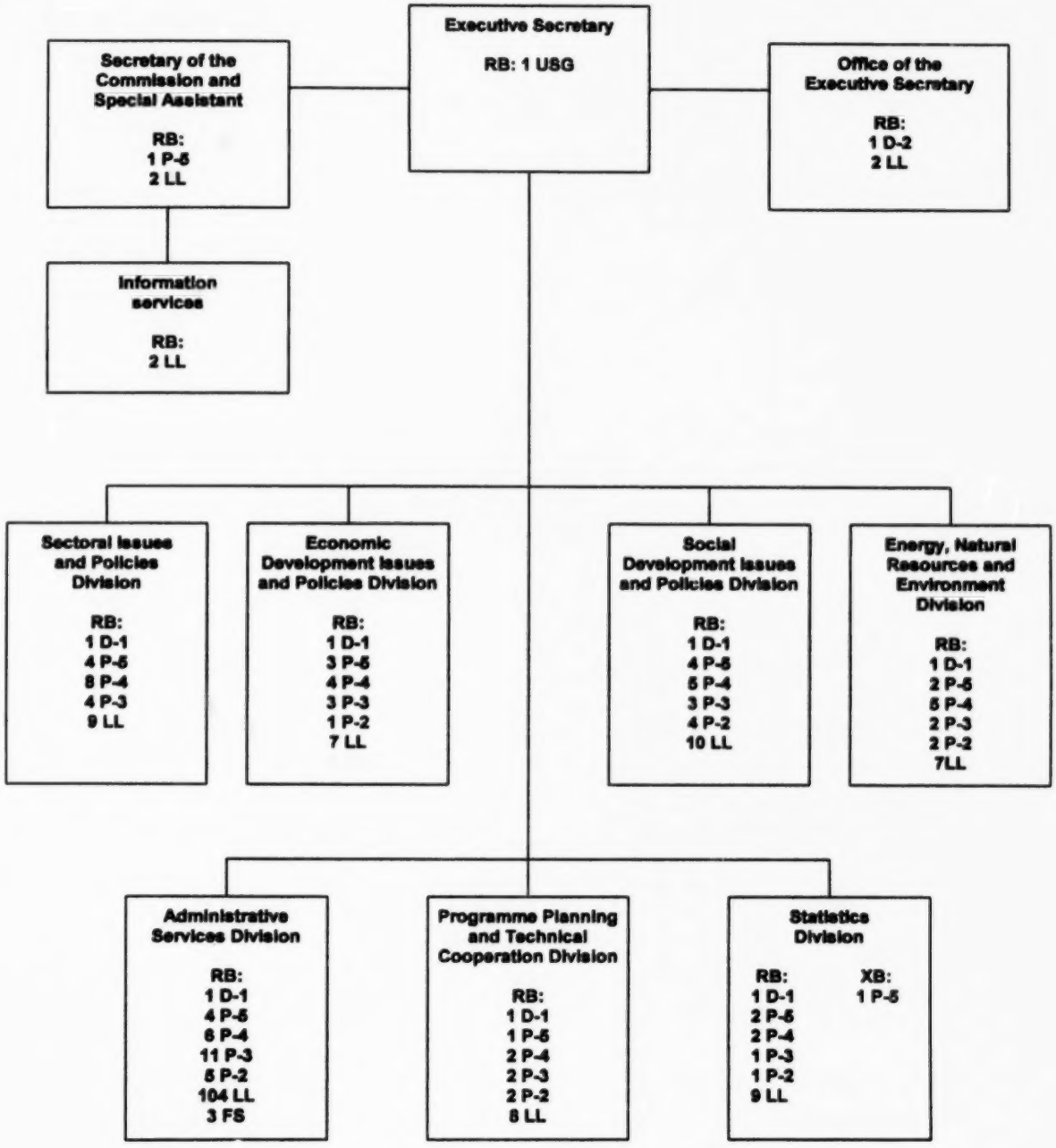
| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
|---|---|
| The Committee notes that the level of resources proposed for programme support in some regional commissions continues to be high in relation to resources requested for the programme of work. The Committee also reiterates its view that the requirements for programme support should have been considerably lower and that the resources thus released could have been diverted to substantive activities (para. V.5). | In an effort to achieve more equilibrium between resources released for substantive activities and those allocated for programme support, ESCWA abolished 15 Local level posts in programme support during the biennium 1998–1999, or around 8 per cent of total Local level posts. However, the smaller the organization, the higher the overhead cost in terms of administrative services. ESCWA is the smallest of the five regional commissions. |
| Budget submissions should indicate the extent of review by intergovernmental organs of the programmes of work of the commissions and their various organizational and institutional issues, including intergovernmental structures. The budget submissions should identify the financial implications resulting from intergovernmental reviews, as well as proposed reallocation within the same budget section of released resources to other priority issues. All increases in requirements resulting from intergovernmental reviews should also be indicated in the budget submissions (para. V.6). | ESCWA's ministerial session, its principal intergovernmental organ, and the session of its Technical Committee are convened biennially in odd years, while budget preparations take place in even years. Likewise, the sessions of the majority of intergovernmental specialized subsidiary bodies of ESCWA take place after the preparation of the budget proposal. To circumvent this problem, during budget preparations for the biennium 2000–2001, ESCWA solicited the assistance of UNDP offices in ESCWA member States in conveying to governmental focal points, in both the economic and social fields, a list of priority areas by thematic subprogramme identified by ESCWA as core priorities around which outputs and activities would be formulated. ESCWA also convened a special meeting of the Advisory Committee of Ambassadors, which consists of heads of diplomatic missions in the host country of the Commission, or their representatives, as well as a high-level representative of the host country, to solicit its views on the priority areas identified for the budget. The Advisory Committee endorsed the proposed budget. The Committee on Water Resources, during its second session in December 1998, reviewed the programme of work in the area of water resources. The programme of work proposed for the biennium 2000–2001 will be submitted to the Technical Committee of the Commission in May 1999. |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
|---|---|
| The Committee recommends that future budget submissions identify publications indicated by the secretariats, including studies to be undertaken by consultants, and indicate more clearly intended users of United Nations publications, both recurrent and non-recurrent. The Committee also reiterates its view, reflected in paragraph 76 of its first report on the proposed budget for the biennium 1996–1997 (A/50/7), that the secretariat should indicate to the relevant intergovernmental bodies the number, type, cost and audience of each publication, the date intended for publication, the date when each publication was first requested, who requested such publications, when it was last reviewed and by whom (para. V.7). | The majority of ESCWA publications for the biennium 2000–2001 are mandated by or derived from resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council or by the Commission itself. As indicated above, the ESCWA member States endorsed the priorities identified by ESCWA for the biennium 2000–2001, which form the umbrella for outputs/activities selected for the biennium 2000–2001. |
| The Committee draws the attention to its comments and observations in paragraph 83 of chapter I and points out also that requirements for consultants in future budget submissions should be prepared in accordance with such guidelines which the General Assembly may wish to establish as a result of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive policy guidelines on consultants to be submitted in accordance with section VI, paragraph 4, of Assembly resolution 51/226 of 3 April 1997 (para. V.8). | The use of consultants funds at ESCWA has allowed ESCWA to perform with greater flexibility while complying with member States mandates. Use of consultants in ESCWA is carried out in compliance with United Nations rules, regulations and procedures. |
| The Advisory Committee recommends that the description of international cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison be significantly improved so that member States are provided with a clear picture of how these activities relate and contribute to other quantifiable and/or identifiable mandated activities (para. V.10). | ESCWA has attempted to relate activities under the category "international cooperation and inter-agency coordination" to its programmed activities. In describing action taken under this heading during the course of a biennium, ESCWA depicts, in detail, in its monitoring report to the Office of Internal Oversight Services, the nature of activities described and their relevance to the programme of work. |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
|---|---|
| **Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (A/52/426)** | |
| ESCWA management has already taken action to decrease the use of consultants and intends to continue to do so. A broadly defined structure would provide more flexibility in addressing multidisciplinary activities and in meeting emerging needs. In that regard, ESCWA is invited to look into the cost-effectiveness of the Technical Cooperation Division, since the current volume of annual expenditures on operational projects does not appear to justify the existence of a separate division. It is also essential to clearly articulate the strategy for technical cooperation in order to provide a framework within which operational activities are conducted (para. 155). | In response to the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services concerning the cost-effectiveness of the Technical Cooperation Division, ESCWA has merged the Technical Cooperation Division with the Programme Planning and Cooperation Unit so that the two form one division, entitled Programme Planning and Technical Cooperation Division. This will also serve to enhance mutual support between normative and operational activities. The strategy for ESCWA operational activities is that they should be the operational arms of its normative activities. |
| As for the overall managerial and administrative issues, improvements are demonstrable in many respects; there remain, however, a number of weaknesses that need to be addressed. First and foremost, the decision-making process needs to be more transparent and rational through an effective institutional mechanism for internal consultation. The effectiveness of such a mechanism requires that the terms of reference, as well as the policies and procedures that govern the issues on which the committees and panels are expected to provide guidance to management, be well articulated, and that the members of those committees and panels are well aware of the procedures. It also requires that the composition of such committees is the result of well-defined and agreed-upon criteria on the basis of which the members are selected. In that regard, ESCWA should consider extending the consultative mechanism to include project appraisal review and publications review. Guidance to management in those two areas could be particularly effective (para. 156). | Terms of reference of internal consultative bodies in various instances are given in administrative instructions or guidelines determined by Headquarters. Steps are being taken to establish consultative mechanisms in the areas of project appraisal and publications reviews. |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
|---|---|
| In an apparent effort to address the issue of transparency, management has recently taken important steps to enlarge the consultative process. Those efforts must be enhanced and move towards addressing the apparently highly centralized decision-making process, in which authority tends to be delegated upward rather than downward. An essential step in addressing the issue would be to articulate clearly in a document the authority, responsibility and accountability of programme managers at various levels. The empowerment of middle management should be reinforced by clearly written policies procedures (para. 157). | Authority, responsibility and accountability are specified in the job description and performance appraisal system (PAS) planning form of each staff member. |

# Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
# Proposed organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2000-2001



United Nations A/54/6 (Sect. 21)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 April 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session

# Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001*

**Part V**
**Regional cooperation for development**

## Section 21
## Regular programme of technical cooperation

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* The present document contains section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

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# Section 21
# Regular programme of technical cooperation

## Overview

21.1 Funding of the technical assistance activities under the regular budget began with General Assembly resolution 58 (I) of 14 December 1946, by which the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to include in the budget of the United Nations for the year 1947 the funds necessary for the accomplishment of such a programme in the field of social welfare. Over the years, the activities have been developed further in their sectoral and regional dimensions. The sectoral advisory services were established by the Assembly in its resolution 200 (III) of 4 December 1948 and the regional advisory services by the Assembly in its resolution 2803 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971.

21.2 The regular programme of technical cooperation complements technical assistance available to the developing countries from other sources of funds. In many countries, it continues to play an important role in several areas of operational activities such as technological development, social development, poverty alleviation and the improvement of human resources, infrastructure development, reinforcement of national capacities for research and development, environmental regeneration and sustainable development, capacity-building to increase competitiveness in the global economic environment, support in national reconstruction, the continuum of relief and development, public administration reform, disaster management, drug control, human rights and support for institutional reforms.

21.3 A significant portion of regular programme activities is oriented towards the needs of the least developed countries in accordance with the criteria established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. In addition, the programme targets countries with economies in transition, where the key areas of support are technical cooperation and policy advice for systemic reforms, the promotion of economic and human development, the protection of the environment and growth of the energy sector.

21.4 Within the framework of existing guidelines, individual technical cooperation activities under the regular programme are determined by the nature of requests received from Governments, the recommendations of intergovernmental legislative and expert bodies and approved work programmes. In keeping with the guidelines, funding is directed towards activities with a demonstrated multiplier effect likely to have a significant impact on the development process that are in accord with development needs and priorities of individual countries and are consistent with global development policies enunciated by United Nations legislative bodies.

21.5 Because the scope and composition of the activities under the regular programme are based on the individual requests of Governments, the proposals at this stage indicate only major areas of activity and relevant secretariat units to be responsible for their implementation.

21.6 The programme, which comprises development projects in the fields of human rights, environment and social development management, human settlements, poverty alleviation, energy, economic development, international trade and development finance, population, public administration, finance and development, crime prevention and criminal justice, international drug control, statistics, transport and disaster mitigation and emergency humanitarian assistance, is divided into two components:

(a) Sectoral advisory services, executed, as appropriate, by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the secretariat of UNCTAD, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Centre for International Crime Prevention and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

(b) Regional and subregional advisory services executed by the secretariats of ECE, ECA, ECLAC, ESCWA and ESCAP.

21.7 There are three main types of technical cooperation activities proposed for financing under this section, namely, short-term advisory services, field projects and training.

**Short-term advisory services**

21.8 In response to ad hoc requests from Governments for assistance, technical cooperation, in the form of short-term advisory services, can be made available under the regular programme in cases when the specific problem can be dealt with on a short-term basis and does not fall within the scope of an already funded project. The main purpose of these services is to provide advice as a basis for immediate government action or, in the case of broader needs, to lay the groundwork for meeting them through the identification and formulation of projects for submission to potential financing sources.

**Field projects**

21.9 Provision of technical cooperation through field projects may originate in response either to specific government requests or to proposals formulated by the various offices concerned in the context of their approved substantive work programmes. Such projects will therefore be mainly interregional, designed to test and operationalize new approaches to development needs or to fill gaps where funds from other sources are insufficient to cover areas given high priority by legislative bodies. Different kinds of inputs will be combined in ways to best meet the particular needs involved and to maximize the multiplier function of the regular programme.

**Training**

21.10 Training activities are undertaken in recognition of the key role of human resources in the development process and the consequent need for adequately trained and qualified personnel at the national level. While training needs are often addressed through short-term advisory services and field projects, a portion of regular programme resources would be used for seminars and workshops in areas with a potential multiplier effect, organized for national staff with policy-making, planning and management responsibilities.

21.11 The procedures applicable to the regular programme were established by the General Assembly in its resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, in which it endorsed the proposals contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII). Under those procedures, annual reports on programme implementation are submitted, as appropriate, to the Executive Board of UNDP, while budget performance is reported to the General Assembly.

21.12 The resource requirements proposed under this section are summarized in table 21.1 below.

**Table 21.1 Summary of requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| *Component* | *1996–1997 expenditures* | *1998–1999 appropriations* | *Resource growth* | | *Total before recosting* | *Recosting* | *2000–2001 estimates* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Amount* | *Percentage* | | | |
| A. Sectoral advisory services | 15 855.7 | 18 643.3 | – | – | 18 643.3 | 784.7 | 19 428.0 |
| B. Regional and subregional advisory services | 21 082.5 | 24 011.9 | – | – | 24 011.9 | 1 699.0 | 25 710.9 |
| **Total** | **36 938.2** | **42 655.2** | – | – | **42 655.2** | **2 483.7** | **45 138.9** |

21.13 The resource requirements proposed for the biennium 2000–2001 are at the same level as have been approved for the biennium 1998–1999. The provision for regional and interregional advisory services at 2,184 work-months for 2000–2001 will be also held at the same level as was provided for the biennium 1998–1999.

# A. Sectoral advisory services

Table 21.2 **Summary of requirements by programme**[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | | | 2000–2001 by implementing office | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1996–1997 expenditures | 1998–1999 appropriations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs | UNCTAD | United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) | Crime prevention | UNDCP | Human rights | Department of Humanitarian Affairs | 2000–2001 estimates |
| Gender issues and advancement of women | – | 303.0 | 543.6 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 543.6 |
| Social policy and development | 541.1 | 2 426.8 | 2 909.9 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 909.9 |
| Sustainable development | 5 120.1 | 2 595.7 | 2 807.8 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 807.8 |
| Statistics | 1 165.7 | 2 036.0 | 1 705.0 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 1 705.0 |
| Population | 174.3 | 386.1 | 511.6 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 511.6 |
| Public economics and public administration | 3 016.6 | 2 715.0 | 2 493.0 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 493.0 |
| Globalization and development | – | – | – | 341.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 341.7 |
| Investment, enterprise, development and technology | – | – | – | 341.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 341.7 |
| International trade in goods and services and commodities | 967.9 | 2 009.1 | – | 683.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 683.4 |
| Services infrastructure for development and trade efficiency | – | – | – | 341.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 341.7 |
| Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries | – | – | – | 341.6 | – | – | – | – | – | 341.6 |
| Adequate shelter for all | 850.6 | 933.6 | – | – | 698.9 | – | – | – | – | 698.9 |
| Sustainable urban development | – | – | – | – | 317.0 | – | – | – | – | 317.0 |
| Crime prevention and criminal justice | 883.1 | 1 030.8 | – | – | – | 1 064.1 | – | – | – | 1 064.1 |
| Supply reduction, elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking | – | 405.9 | – | – | – | – | 419.0 | – | – | 419.0 |
| Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities | 2 218.3 | 2 939.8 | – | – | – | – | – | 3 009.7 | – | 3 009.7 |
| Complex emergencies | 595.1 | 598.0 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 627.1 | 627.1 |
| Disaster relief | 322.9 | 263.5 | – | – | – | – | – | – | 271.2 | 271.2 |
| **Total** | **15 855.7** | **18 643.3** | **10 970.9** | **2 050.1** | **1 015.9** | **1 064.1** | **419.0** | **3 009.7** | **898.3** | **19 428.0** |

[a] The breakdown is subject to change in response to assistance requests received and is shown for indicative purpose only

21.14 The sectoral advisory services cover programmes relating to human rights, environment and social development management, gender issues, human settlements, trade and development, population, public administration, finance and development, crime prevention and criminal justice, international drug control, statistics and emergency humanitarian assistance. The estimated requirements amount to $19,428,000, as shown in table 21.2, and comprise 43 per cent of the total resources under section 21.

21.15 It is anticipated that 744 work-months of interregional advisory services will be required during the biennium 2000–2001, representing no growth in comparison with the biennium 1998–1999.

## 1. Economic and social affairs: $10,970,900

21.16 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in support of the objectives set out in programme 28 of the revised medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/53/6 (Prog.28)), in particular, subprogrammes 28.2, Gender issues and advancement of women; 28.3, Social policy and development; 28.4, Sustainable development; 28.5, Statistics; 28.6, Population; and 28.8, Public economics and public administration.

21.17 During the biennium 2000–2001, the focus will be on establishing and strengthening national capacities to promote gender mainstreaming, social development, including poverty alleviation, the enhancement of sustainable development and environmentally sound natural and energy resources management, statistical capabilities at the national level, the formulation and effective implementation of national population and related policies and the reform of public administration and the public sector.

21.18 It is also intended, during the biennium, to strengthen the capacity for networking and integrating advisory servicing facilities available in the United Nations economic and social entities represented on the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, in order to facilitate joint assessments of problems, the design of multidimensional proposals and training initiatives for strengthening of national capacities and in support of capacity-building and the sharing of best practices, particularly South-South experience.

**Outputs**

21.19 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Gender issues and advancement of women: $543,600*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to provide assistance to promote capacity-building for enhancing the participation of women in development and mainstreaming a gender perspective into national policies and programmes; to strengthen national capabilities for enhancing the understanding of women's rights and the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women process; and to strengthen national capacity in conceptualization, formulation and implementation of action-oriented national plan and programmes designed to implement the Beijing Platform for Action;

(ii) Group training. One subregional training workshop organized, at the request of Governments, for State parties to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women with respect to reporting obligations and one interregional seminar to follow up recommendations arising from the high-level review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Social policy and development: $2,909,900*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to assist in the establishment and strengthening of national capacities for implementation of the decisions and commitments made at the Copenhagen World Summit on Social Development, in particular regarding social development, policy assessments, social impact, social integration and social expenditure and

poverty alleviation; and formulation and design of social development policies and strategies for incorporation into national plans and programmes;

(ii) Group training. Six interregional workshops/seminars on social integration and social development, delivery of social services and social impact assessment;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Sustainable development: $2,807,800*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to provide support for strengthening national institutional capacities in the field of sustainable development, the elaboration and implementation of national sustainable development policies in national sectoral plans and strategies and the incorporation of sustainable development concerns into these plans and strategies, in particular in the fields of energy, fresh water management, infrastructure development and mineral resources;

(ii) Group training. Eleven workshops/seminars on the applications of remote servicing technology, the social impact of small mining industries, environmental and other regulatory framework for mineral development, coastal management and integrated water resources for small island developing States, energy problems of small island developing States, clean development mechanisms as a financing tool for energy projects, energy standards and labelling programmes and management programmes for electric utilities;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Statistics: $1,705,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to ensure the provision of expert assistance in statistics and statistical data processing to assist in the enhancement of capabilities related to decennial censuses and the System of National Accounts;

(ii) Group training. Twelve workshops/seminars aimed at capacity-building in the areas of environmental statistics and indicators; national accounts; population and housing censuses; disability statistics; and civil registration and vital statistics and international merchandise trade statistics;

(iii) Fellowships. Sixty fellowships to be provided to nationals from developing countries to upgrade their professional capabilities in the area of statistics and to encourage technical cooperation among developing countries;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Population: $511,600*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to provide assistance to improve institutional capabilities for the compilation and analysis of national population data and for the formulation of national policies and programmes to improve national capacity to formulate policies for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. The major focus will be given to the follow-up to the International Conference, including the strengthening and expansion of electronic population information to respond effectively to requests for information and to support coordination among the United Nations entities in the field of population;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops/seminars on population data analysis and research;

(f) *Subprogramme 6. Public economics and public administration: $2,493,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to provide support in the fields of governance and public administration policy development, administrative restructuring, civil service reform, governmental capacity for improved performance in the public sector and training in the field of public sector management reforms, governance and civic participation, and public administration and information; strengthening of public institutions and of governance systems, development of public services delivery systems, financial resources

mobilization, management and accountability and public/private partnership and regulatory framework;

(ii) Group training. Ten workshops on public sector management reforms, gender issues in civil service systems, governance and civic participation, public administration and information systems, government accounting and reporting, and promoting ethics in government and private sector development.

## 2. Trade and development: $2,050,100

21.20 The activities in this sector are implemented by UNCTAD and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 9.1 Globalization and development, 9.2 Investment, enterprise development and technology, 9.3 International trade in goods and services and commodities, 9.4 Services infrastructure for development and trade efficiency and 9.5 Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, of programme 9, Trade and development, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

21.21 During the biennium 2000–2001, the UNCTAD regular programme on technical cooperation will focus on strengthening the capacities of developing countries and their groupings to foster the integration of their economies into the world economy. These activities will take into account the needs arising from developments in the international economy, including both the post-Uruguay Round context and the forthcoming series of multilateral negotiations on international trade and investment. They will also be fully responsive to the need to support the strengthening of economic cooperation groupings of developing countries. The UNCTAD regular programme of technical cooperation will be coordinated to ensure an appropriate balance among developing regions with priority assigned to the specific needs of the least developed countries and other countries with structurally weak and vulnerable economies.

**Outputs**

21.22 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Globalization and development: $341,700*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on capacity-building and related policy advice with regard to financial issues, including the monitoring and surveillance of capital flows and debt, appropriate exchange rate and monetary policies and capital market development; on the timing and sequencing of policy reform to facilitate the process of integration in the international economy; on the implications of new financial mechanisms; on the design and implementation of development strategies in Africa, with special reference to poverty alleviation; on subregional economic cooperation and integration, including financial groupings of developing countries; and on training and human resource development in these areas;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops/seminars for senior officials on new financial mechanisms and risks and opportunities for developing countries;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Investment, enterprise development and technology: $341,700*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on capacity-building and related policy advice to foster closer contacts and cooperation among enterprises; to promote investment; to facilitate partnership agreements; to foster the development of enterprises and entrepreneurship, including through the strengthening of associations of entrepreneurs in developing countries; to strengthen centres for technology innovation; to support bilateral and multilateral negotiations on investment; and to promote the development of human resources and local training capacities in these areas;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops/seminars for senior officials on bilateral and multilateral negotiations on investments and on strengthening centres for technological innovations;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. International trade in goods and services and commodities: $683,400*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on capacity-building and related policy advice: to promote awareness of trade policy rules and reforms; to assist in the implementation of Uruguay Round results and to identify trading opportunities arising therefrom; to assist in the preparation for new multilateral trade negotiations; to promote complementarity between the environment, trade and development; to advise on the sustainable management of natural resources and to use modern instruments for commodity risk management; to promote competition policy; to advise on commodity diversification and processing; to disseminate trade data; to assist subregional groupings on emerging trading arrangements; and to promote the development of human resources in these areas, particularly through structured training programmes;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops/seminars for senior officials on new trading opportunities deriving from the implementation of Uruguay Round results and/or on trade and environment and sustainable management of natural resources;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Services infrastructure for development and trade efficiency: $341,700*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on capacity-building and related policy advice: to apply information technology to render the process of trading and transport more efficient; to promote the application of electronic commerce; to facilitate trade; to enhance the efficiency of the management of shipping and other multimodal transport operations; to promote opportunities for banking and insurance facilitation and new financial services; and to strengthen local training capacities in these and related areas, particularly through structured training programmes;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops/seminars for senior officials on the legal environment, commerce and micro-banking;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Least developed, landlocked and island developing countries: $341,600*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, upon request, to advise least developed countries on the development of integrated country programmes for enhancing export supply capacities; on the implementation of the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Cooperation developed with the support of UNCTAD, ITC, UNDP, IMF, the World Bank and WTO; on the preparation of the Third United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries; on transit/transport problems affecting landlocked developing countries; on the particular economic problems of island developing countries; and on the development of human resources in these areas;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops/seminars for senior officials on transit/transport issues and on the evaluation of country programmes.

## 3. Human settlements: $1,015,900

21.23 The activities in this sector are implemented by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 11.1, Adequate shelter for all, and 11.2, Sustainable urban development, of programme 11, Human settlements, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

**Outputs**

21.24 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Adequate shelter for all: $698,900*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on housing finance and delivery, land management and security of tenure and infrastructure management;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on housing finance and delivery;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Sustainable urban development: $317,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, on urban finance, urban poverty reduction and the improvement of urban governance; and on management and exchange of expertise, experience, know-how and technology;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on urban development and socio-economic integration in urban areas.

## 4. Crime prevention and criminal justice: $1,064,100

21.25 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Centre for International Crime Prevention and are in support of the objectives of programme 12, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

21.26 The programme of technical cooperation aims at reinforcing the criminal justice system of Member States. Compared with the biennium 1998–1999, the programme of technical cooperation will increasingly focus on the fight against transnational organized crime and corruption. Provision of technical assistance at national, subregional and regional levels will constitute a key element of the overall strategy of the Centre for International Crime Prevention. These actions will be implemented in accordance with the mandates given to the Centre by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. In addition, technical assistance will be provided to Member States to take effective measures at the national level in line with the convention against transnational organized crime expected to be adopted by the Millennium Assembly of the General Assembly in 2000.

**Outputs**

21.27 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

*Subprogramme 1. Crime prevention and criminal justice: $1,064,100*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to assess existing national measures against corruption and organized crime, particularly by strengthening criminal justice systems, to draft or revise relevant national legislation and establish or support national strategies against corruption and organized crime; and to introduce or transfer new techniques of computer technology and create/evaluate electronic databases for the administration of criminal justice;

(ii) Group training. Five workshops relating to the international convention against transnational organized crime expected to be adopted in 2000. The workshops will be designed to enhance expertise to cope with national, subregional and regional requirements, such as the strengthening of legal mutual assistance and extradition procedures, exchange of information among national law enforcement agencies, judges and prosecutors; four study tours for senior government officials from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to attend high-level training courses on specific techniques and strategies against organized crime and corruption;

(iii) Fellowships. Nine fellowships for participants from developed countries and countries with economies in transition;

(iv) Field projects. Two projects on measures against organized crime and corruption.

## 5. International drug control: $419,000

21.28 The activities in this sector are implemented by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and are in support of the objectives of subprogramme 13.4, Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking, of programme 13, International drug control, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1). The assistance provided under this programme complements assistance available to developing countries from the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

21.29 During the biennium 2000–2001, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme will continue to place emphasis on the provision of support to Member States to secure accession to the international drug control conventions and to adopt legislation and infrastructure. For this purpose, technical assistance will be provided to Member States in strengthening their capacity to improve their legislation and criminal justice systems and in establishing or strengthening their institutions, infrastructures, practices and procedures for the detection, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of various types of drug-related crimes. Further, the Programme will also provide technical assistance to Member States for developing long-term programmes for the training of personnel responsible for applying the new laws, in line with international instruments and recommendations to upgrade their technical understanding and know-how. Special attention will be given to the legal infrastructure elements of the mandates resulting from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly in the areas of demand reduction, amphetamine-type stimulants, precursors, judicial cooperation, money-laundering and alternative development.

### Outputs

21.30 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

*Subprogramme 1. Supply reduction: elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit drug trafficking: $419,000*

Advisory services. Missions, at the request of Governments, to provide advice on the nature and extent of obligations under the international drug control conventions and on implementation measures adopted by other countries with similar legal systems and concepts; to assess needs and develop project proposals; to conduct comprehensive reviews, evaluations and report on existing drug-related laws, arrangements and implementation procedures and infrastructure of the country or subregion concerned; to provide advice on legislative and administrative options to give correct and adequate effect to all the conventions, including appropriate mechanisms to help ensure effective international cooperation under the conventions; to formulate policies in line with the conventions, as well as for coordinating operational drug control activities; to provide expertise to help prepare drafting instructions or the legislation itself and to model implementing legislation and expert advice on its adjustment to suit local requirements; to improve professionalism of judges and prosecutors in applying drug-related laws and giving and receiving international and judicial cooperation in extradition, legal assistance, and related matters.

## 6. Human rights: $3,009,700

21.31 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and are in support of the objectives of subprogramme 19.3, Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities, of programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

21.32 The objectives are to assist countries, at their request, in developing comprehensive national plans of action to promote and protect human rights and to provide advice and to support specific projects to promote the incorporation of international human rights standards into national laws, policies and practices; to develop a comprehensive and coordinated United Nations programme to help States in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection; and to raise awareness and promote specialized knowledge about human rights through the organization of training courses, seminars and workshops and the production of a wide range of educational, training and information material.

**Outputs**

21.33 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

*Subprogramme 1. Advisory services, technical cooperation, support to human rights fact-finding procedures and field activities: $3,009,700*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to provide assistance in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection and to assess needs and provide advice as a basis for immediate government action;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on regional arrangements for the protection of human rights in the Asia and the Pacific region; eight regional training courses on specific thematic issues: economic and cultural rights; women rights/trafficking of women; children's rights/juvenile justice; administration of justice; national human rights institutions; human rights education; national plans of actions; and human rights monitoring;

(iii) Fellowships. Sixty fellowships to be awarded to candidates from five regions who need to study and train in specific areas of human rights, with emphasis on training in the preparation of reports to the United Nations human rights monitoring bodies.

## 7. Humanitarian assistance: $898,300

21.34 The activities in this sector are implemented by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, specifically by the Emergency Liaison Branch in New York and the Disaster Response Branch in Geneva, and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 20.2. Complex emergencies, and 20.4 Disaster relief, of programme 20, Humanitarian assistance, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1).

21.35 During the biennium 2000–2001, the Emergency Relief Coordinator will further strengthen and develop the capacity of his office to respond to natural and man-made emergencies, working closely with Governments of disaster-prone and emergency-affected countries to ensure the effective delivery of emergency humanitarian assistance, including support in the continuum from relief to development. To that end, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs will emphasize the need for contingency planning; test the validity of those plans in post-disaster/emergency situations; and provide expert advice on the application, at the regional and country levels, of knowledge acquired through theoretical and practical experience.

## Outputs

21.36 The categories of outputs foreseen to be delivered are as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Complex emergencies: $627,100*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to coordinate the design, improvement and development of plans at agency levels, working closely with affected Governments, in order to strengthen the collective response capacity of the United Nations system; to support governmental efforts by promoting the concept of contingency planning, following the assessment of the impact of disasters/emergencies and the evaluation of its effectiveness;

(ii) Group training. Three regional training courses on harmonization of disaster/emergency assessment and coordination approaches as well as established standards and recognized procedures, one in Africa and two in Asia, with the participation of government representatives and United Nations agencies;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Disaster relief: $271,200*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to facilitate the identification of measures to be taken during the transitional phase from relief to development; to assess the existing contingency plans at regional and country levels; to help identify measures aimed at strengthening the capacity to better respond in future emergency situations;

(ii) Group training. One seminar to allow North/South and South/South exchanges to take place as a forum for exchange of experience and lessons learned.

## B. Regional and subregional advisory services

### Table 21.3 Summary of requirements by programme[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | 1996-1997 expenditure | 1998-1999 estimates | 2000-2001 by implementing office | | | | | 2000-2001 estimates |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ECA | ESCAP | ECE | ECLAC | ESCWA | |
| Facilitating economic and policy analysis | 3 499.1 | 3 498.0 | 2 486.1 | – | – | – | – | 2 486.1 |
| Enhancing food security and sustainable development | 940.4 | 1 256.9 | 1 410.2 | – | – | – | – | 1 410.2 |
| Strengthening development management | 1 040.9 | 1 264.0 | 1 018.2 | – | – | – | – | 1 018.2 |
| Harnessing information for development | 603.6 | 1 508.5 | 1 347.1 | – | – | – | – | 1 347.1 |
| Promoting regional cooperation and integration | 1 299.7 | 431.9 | 978.5 | – | – | – | – | 978.5 |
| Promoting the advancement of women | – | – | 1 057.9 | – | – | – | – | 1 057.9 |
| Regional economic cooperation | 1 094.3 | 1 293.6 | – | 1 307.7 | – | – | – | 1 307.7 |
| Development research and policy analysis | 1 091.0 | 1 350.1 | – | 1 356.5 | – | – | – | 1 356.5 |
| Social development | 490.3 | 433.7 | – | 663.7 | – | – | – | 663.7 |
| Environment and natural resources development | 1 326.4 | 861.4 | – | 840.0 | – | – | – | 840.0 |
| Statistics in Asia and the Pacific | 366.9 | 431.5 | – | 663.5 | – | – | – | 663.5 |
| Environment | 323.0 | 372.6 | – | – | 382.0 | – | – | 382.0 |
| Transport | 508.2 | 732.1 | – | – | 750.6 | – | – | 750.6 |
| Statistics in Europe | 167.1 | 366.2 | – | – | 375.4 | – | – | 375.4 |
| Sustainable energy | 321.8 | 373.5 | – | – | 382.8 | – | – | 382.8 |
| Trade, industry and enterprise development | 1 254.4 | 1 085.8 | – | – | 1 113.6 | – | – | 1 113.6 |
| Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization | 393.2 | 383.9 | – | – | – | 450.9 | – | 450.9 |
| Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development | 272.7 | 262.5 | – | – | – | 367.4 | – | 367.4 |
| Macroeconomic equilibra, investment and financing | 3 118.0 | 4 086.3 | – | – | – | 3 989.6 | – | 3 989.6 |
| Environmental and land resource sustainability | 317.5 | 268.9 | – | – | – | 656.5 | – | 656.5 |
| Management of natural resources and environment | 961.2 | 1 314.5 | – | – | – | – | 1 107.9 | 1 107.9 |
| Improvement of the quality of life | 274.3 | 330.2 | – | – | – | – | 539.2 | 539.2 |
| Economic development and global changes | 462.6 | 315.0 | – | – | – | – | 880.3 | 880.3 |
| Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development | 297.3 | 1 066.2 | – | – | – | – | 874.3 | 874.3 |
| Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information | 658.6 | 724.6 | – | – | – | – | 711.0 | 711.0 |
| **Total** | **21 082.5** | **24 011.9** | **8 298.0** | **4 831.4** | **3 004.4** | **5 464.4** | **4 112.7** | **25 710.9** |

[a] The breakdown is subject to change in response to assistance requests received and is shown for indicative purpose only.

21.37 The estimates for this component ($25,710,900) comprise 57 per cent of the total resources proposed under this section. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2803 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, provision is made for a system of regional and subregional advisory services for the purpose of assisting developing countries that are members of the regional commissions in solving problems that they may encounter in their national development efforts. The advisory services are made available in response to requests from Governments and involve advisory missions on an individual or joint multidisciplinary basis. The resources for regional and subregional advisory services are provided in the form of work-months estimated to meet the requirements in particular fields during the biennium. The regional advisers are engaged on a temporary basis and receive support from substantive divisions and administrative services of the regional commissions.

21.38 It is anticipated that 1,440 work-months of regional advisory services will be required in the biennium 2000–2001, the same level as required during the biennium 1998–1999.

21.39 Regional commissions carry out important information-gathering and socio-economic analysis functions in their respective regions. They have been playing a major role in developing policy on economic integration and in clarifying economic, social, political and environmental issues relating to sustainable development. They provide a forum and a network for cooperation among their member States and between them and other States at the technical level. In addition, they are increasingly becoming providers of technical cooperation activities, especially in intersectoral areas and in areas where no other United Nations entity has a comparative advantage.

## 1. Economic and social development in Africa: $8,298,000

21.40 The activities in this region are implemented by ECA and are in support of the objectives set out in subprogrammes 14.1, Facilitating economic and social policy analysis, 14.2, Enhancing food security and sustainable development, 14.3, Strengthening development management, 14.4, Harnessing information for development, 14.5, Promoting regional cooperation and integration, and 14.6, Promoting the advancement of women, of programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1).

21.41 During the biennium 2000–2001, the programme will focus on the provision of advisory services and group training by both regional advisers and short-term experts for the purpose of assisting member States in solving problems that they may encounter in their national development efforts. The main purpose of these services is to provide advice as a basis for immediate government action or, in the case of broader needs, to lay the ground work for meeting them through the identification and formulation of projects for submission to potential financing sources. The training activities (seminars, workshops and symposia), which form an important aspect of the functions performed by the regional advisers, will be undertaken in areas with a potential multiplier effect, organized for officials of member States, intergovernmental and civil society organizations with policy-making, planning and management responsibilities.

**Outputs**

21.42 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Facilitating economic and policy analysis: $2,486,100*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on formulation of national and subregional large-scale and sectoral policies and strategies and the preparation, implementation and monitoring of programmes for adjustment and stabilization, including implementation of policies, measures and incentives for enhancing trade expansion and strengthening export capacity; poverty assessment, analysis and monitoring; debt management; and on post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction;

(ii) Group training. Two high-level seminars on policies and instruments for macroeconomic management; two policy seminars on debt management; two workshops on the development of guidelines and methodologies for use by member States to improve poverty assessment, analysis and monitoring; two subregional seminars on post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Enhancing food security and sustainable development: $1,410,200*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on formulation of policies and design strategies and programmes related to the nexus issues (population, environment and agriculture interactions); the design, implementation and evaluation of food security policies and programmes; implementation of the population, environment and development agriculture interactions (PEDA) model; national policies and environment-related legislation and laws; modalities for integrating environmental considerations into economic decision-making; environmental protection and urban development; support to sustainable agricultural production and environmental rehabilitation programmes;

(ii) Group training. Two high-level regional seminars on the implementation of the PEDA model; two seminars on the monitoring of the series of globally agreed upon programmes and conventions that flow from the New Agenda for Development of Africa in the 1990s; two workshops on developing methodologies and guidelines on sustainable agricultural production systems and environmental rehabilitation programmes in Africa; two seminars on topical issues on food security and sustainable development;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Strengthening development management: $1,018,200*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on enhancing effectiveness and efficiency and policy analysis capacity in African public services; enhancing accountability in the public sector; decentralization and local governance; developing and strengthening legal and regulatory framework essential to private sector operations; the design of policies and measures for promoting dialogue and partnerships between the private and public sectors; strengthening networking arrangements among national, subregional and regional private sector organizations and associations; and the formulation of policies and design of programmes/projects to promote enterprise competitiveness and entrepreneurship development;

(ii) Group training. One regional seminar on the development of codes and indicators to monitor administrative governance; two workshops on ethics and accountability for improved efficiency and performance in the public sector; two seminars on strengthening the leadership and the managerial and technical capacities of local government; two high-level seminars on formulation of policies and measures to promote private sector competitiveness and entrepreneurship development; and a symposium on strategies and technical assistance programmes to strengthen South-South cooperation for promoting strategic joint ventures and partnerships between enterprises;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Harnessing information for development: $1,347,100*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on developing national policies and plans for adopting development information technologies; developing master plans for building national information and communication infrastructures; developing guidelines and standards on policies and strategies to increase access to information and communication facilities; monitoring the implementation of the African Information Society Initiative; strategies for building appropriate computer and electronic networking infrastructures for developing connectivity and assisting in the creation of national and regional network information centres, Internet Society chapters and community connectivity centres; organization and management of statistical systems and household surveys; and implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts;

(ii) Group training. Two seminars on design of development information systems and on information economy; two workshops on organization and management of statistical systems; two workshops on capacity-building training programmes related to information and communication technology; two workshops on building appropriate computer networking infrastructure and implementing connectivity projects and national information infrastructure development initiatives;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Promoting regional cooperation and integration: $978,500*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on regional transport linkages and facilitation; monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Transport and Communication Decade in Africa programme; problems related to water resources development and management, including cooperative arrangements on transboundary river/lake basins; partnership arrangements and cooperation between enterprises and development organizations at subregional and regional levels in the fields of transport and communications; and strategies and measures for the development of both surface and groundwater;

(ii) Group training. Two seminars on topical issues on water resources development and management; one regional workshop on the implementation of the African Road Safety initiative; one symposium on commercialization and private sector participation in transport and communications; one seminar on multimodal transport, freight forwarding and logistics; and one workshop on development of rural transport infrastructure;

(f) *Subprogramme 6. Promoting the advancement of women: $1,057,900*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on strategies for legal reform and formulation of new legislation with a view to attaining a gender responsive legal system consistent with the current international framework for human and legal rights; technical support to Governments, non-governmental organizations and the establishment of legal, paralegal and mobile legal services in the rural communities; strategies to promote legal literacy among women and men at all levels and to introduce legal education in the school system; building and strengthening the capacity of women entrepreneurs networks/associations; mainstreaming of a gender perspective into national and sectoral development plans and strategies as well as the programmes of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including into national accounts and budgetary processes;

(ii) Group training. Two workshops on developing or strengthening legal and regulatory frameworks to foster women's access to land; one high-level seminar on the harmonization of customs and modern law with regard to women's legal rights; one workshop for developing strategies to promote networks and partnerships for legal literacy among women and men in rural communities; two workshops on the development and application of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the sixth African Regional Conference on Women; one workshop for improving non-governmental management and networking capabilities; three training courses for building national capacity in gender analysis and formulation of gender policies and training of trainers for entrepreneurship development.

## 2. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific: $4,831,400

21.43 The activities in this region are implemented by ESCAP and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 15.1, Regional economic cooperation, 15.2, Development research and policy analysis, 15.3, Social development, 15.5, Environment and natural resources development, and 15.7, Statistics, of programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1).

21.44 During the biennium 2000–2001, technical cooperation activities will focus on strengthening the technical, managerial and organizational capacities of developing member and associate member States at all levels in their national efforts to solve their economic, social and technological programmes. Formulation of the regional advisory and training programme for 2000–2001 is based on the requests by the member States, the needs and priorities of the recipient countries as reflected in the deliberations of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and on the emerging needs/changing conditions in those countries of the ESCAP region requesting advisory services.

**Outputs**

21.45 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Regional economic cooperation: $1,307,700*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on trade policy and trade promotion; more effective participation in WTO negotiations in articulating their concerns and advocating their interests; enhancement of regional cooperation to promote trade efficiency and electronic commerce; facilitating access to information technology; assisting countries to enhance their national capacities to introduce micro-level efficiencies thereby facilitating response to the challenges and opportunities emerging from globalization and the liberalization of international trade;

(ii) Group training. Eight workshops on strengthening of national capabilities in technology transfer and investment promotion; increasing possibilities of expansion and diversification of trade between and among subregions; and strengthening of national capabilities in relation to small- and medium-scale industries;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Development research and policy analysis: $1,356,500*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to requests from Governments, in particular of the Pacific island developing countries, on economic development and planning, especially such as strategic development planning; adjustment and reform programmes, sustainable development policies and practices, monetary, fiscal and income policies, public sector financial management, capital markets development, informal and semi-formal financial systems, governance, corporate plans at ministry, departmental and local government levels, small business development and public sector investment programmes;

(ii) Group training. Four workshops on various aspects of macroeconomic planning and management, financial management and public administration; particularly for countries with economies in transition;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Social development: $663,700*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to assist in formulating appropriate policies, plans and programmes on poverty alleviation and social integration within the context of national, subregional and regional development goals; monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of national social and economic development policies, plans and programmes for poverty alleviation and social integration; improving the targeting of specific disadvantaged and vulnerable social groups to be accorded priority attention in policies, plans and programmes for poverty alleviation and social integration; accelerating the implementation of national action to achieve the goals and targets in the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region, the follow-up of the World Summit for Social Development and the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, 1997–2006; rural development, social development and planning, youth in development, social security systems, women in development, policies and programmes for the disabled and mainstreaming all

categories of social development issues in the decision-making and planning machinery of Governments;

(ii) Group training. Eight workshops on social aspects of structural adjustment and economic reform and development issues related to poverty alleviation and economic development programmes; integration of women into all aspects of development planning;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Environment and natural resources development: $840,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to assist countries in formulating plans for the priority sectors identified, as well as areas related to environmental protection, including assistance in institutional and policy development and environmental impact assessment;

(ii) Group training. Four workshops on capacity-building for development of national plans and programmes for environmentally sound and sustainable development;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Statistics in Asia and the Pacific: $663,500*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance in the field of national accounts; and in the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts;

(ii) Group training. Three workshops on the new system of national accounts; and social statistics, gender statistics and related socio-economic indicators.

## 3. Economic development in Europe: $3,004,400

21.46 The activities in this region are implemented by ECE and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 16.1, Environment, 16.2, Transport, 16.3, Statistics, 16.5, Sustainable energy, and 16.6, Trade, industry and enterprise development, of programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1).

21.47 During the biennium 2000–2001, the principal function of the ECE advisory services will be to continue to promote the capacity of countries undergoing transition processes to integrate with the European and global economy. The advisory services have reinforced the ECE orientation regarding those issues of particular relevance to countries with economies in transition and newly independent States. Requests for ECE advisory assistance from its member States, which show an ever-growing trend, cover a broad range of activities in areas of strategic policy formulation such as market economy institution-building, trade promotion, industry and enterprise development, privatization and foreign direct investment, statistics, transport, environment and energy. Advisory assistance also includes the implementation of conventions, norms and standards negotiated within ECE, programme formulation, financial engineering, training of policy makers, as well as institutional networking at national and subregional levels.

**Outputs**

21.48 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Environment: $382,000*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, in particular of the countries with economies in transition to a market economy in the ECE region, to assist them in enhancing capacity- and institution-building to comply with the regional environmental conventions in a transboundary context in the areas of water management, environmental impact assessment and industrial accidents, to promote their implementation and compliance monitoring, to speed up their

respective ratification/accession processes and to promote integration of countries in transition into a pan-European legal and economic space;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Transport: $750,600*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, for assistance to participate in and benefit from ECE region-wide efforts to achieve an integrated European transport system; in bringing national transport systems and infrastructures in line with recommendations, resolutions and international agreements and conventions elaborated within the framework of the ECE Inland Transport Committee. In the process, particular attention will be given to assisting member States in transition to develop transport systems and infrastructures that are compatible with those of neighbouring parts of the ECE region;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Statistics in Europe: $375,400*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to focus mainly on the area of social and demographic statistics aiming to help develop statistical capacity within countries with economies in transition in central and eastern Europe and in the Commonwealth of Independent States; to provide assistance to countries with economies in transition with the 2000 round of population censuses; to assist countries with economies in transition in building a capacity for human development and social trends reporting;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Sustainable energy: $382,800*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to ensure that the countries with economies in transition receive advisory assistance to reduce the energy outputs of their national economies, which is closely linked to environmental problems, and in the selection of energy efficiency demonstration zone sites on the basis of technical and economic appraisal, to be carried out by technical visits to all sites. Technical advice will also be given to enable these countries to formulate their national energy policies with the aim of reducing their dependence on energy imports, to assist in a formulation of legislation in the energy field and to promote the development of the privatization process in the energy sector;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Trade, industry and enterprise development: $1,113,600*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to provide assistance to the countries with economies in transition in the implementation of legislative, regulatory and institutional frameworks established for the promotion of trade and foreign direct investment; to support government agencies concerned with border-crossing operations in countries with economies in transition, and to promote public sector cooperation with professional associations to simplify trade procedures and reduce non-tariff barriers to trade; and to support creation of an enabling environment for the development of small and medium size enterprises in countries with economies in transition.

## 4. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean: $5,464,400

21.49 The activities in this region are implemented by ECLAC and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 17.1, Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization, 17.3, Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development, 17.4, Macroeconomic equilibria, investment and financing, and 17.7, Environmental and land resource sustainability, of programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1).

21.50 For the sustainable economic development of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, there is a need for these countries to improve their linkages with the global economy (their quantitative and qualitative shares in trade, foreign direct investment and technology flows) and also to increase their capacity

both to take advantage of growth cycles in international trade and to withstand adverse phases through diversification of products and markets, a search for investments and alliances abroad and better linkages between exports and the other production activities; to identify the most suitable best practices and technologies available internationally, adapting them to local conditions; to carry out important reforms and implement macroeconomic and institutional policies to introduce new ways of operating; and to introduce environmental concerns into natural resources development.

**Outputs**

21.51 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs are to be delivered:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Linkages with the global economy, competitiveness and production specialization: $450,900*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to the countries in the region to assist in the improvement of their negotiating capacity in the field of international trade and to enhance their capacity to attract external financial resources for investment; to advise on reform of trade policies to improve the linkages with the global economy and on the improvement of their regulatory framework governing international trade; on reforms of trade policies in light of the challenges and opportunities of the current trends of the world economy; on the strengthening of the negotiating capacity of the Governments in the region to fully benefit from the opportunities of recent international trade agreements and on the improvement of their capacity to generate financial resources for investment in productive and service enterprises; and on policies to increase internal and external financial resources for investment, on instruments for channelling such resources into productive capital accumulation and on strengthening the negotiating capacity of Governments in the region in the field of international trade in goods and services;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development: $367,400*

Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries of the region to assist in the design of policies to promote economic growth, based on the utilization and local adaptation of the best internationally available practices and technologies, fostering their ability to compete internationally and support their modernization processes; to increase the pool of knowledge on linkages and production chains being developed in the region and to identify the policies best suited to support this process within the framework of an optimum exploitation of natural resources with minimum negative impact on the environment; and on related policy reforms within the subregional and hemispheric integration process;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Macroeconomic equilibria, investment and financing: $3,989,600*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries of the region to assist in improving policy decisions adopted by Governments and the private sector in national economies by undertaking a systematic assessment of the application of economic policies and reforms and the international and regional context in which they operate; on subregional and hemispheric integration; and to provide technical assistance on the application of new information and communication technologies management in organizations and the effects on the regional development process;

(ii) Group training. Five seminars on fiscal policy reforms; economic and social integration; hemispheric integration; information management; and sectorial policies, productivity and competitiveness; four study tours on exchange of experience in fiscal policy; economic integration; municipal administration; and information management;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Environmental and land resource sustainability: $656,500*

Advisory service. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, to countries of the region to assist in the formulation of policies which promote environmentally sustainable development

and the use of natural resources and to advise the countries on the implementation of Agenda 21 and other multilateral environmental agreements; on reforms of policies and the implementation of measures related to the environmentally sustainable use of natural resources and on the development of regulatory instruments for recently privatized water and sanitation entities; on the tourism industry; on the strengthening of the existing institutional mechanisms to protect the environment; and on the use of energy and mining resources.

## 5. Economic and social development in Western Asia: $4,112,700

21.52 The activities in this region are implemented by ESCWA and are in support of the objectives of subprogrammes 18.1, Management of natural resources and environment, 18.2, Improvement of the quality of life, 18.3, Economic development and global changes, 18.4, Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development, and 18.5, Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information, of programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001, as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1).

21.53 The purpose of this programme is to assist member States in their national efforts to overcome the various obstacles to economic and social development. During the biennium 2000–2001, ESCWA will continue to enhance regional cooperation and policy coordination and increase awareness of the economic, social, cultural, technological and environmental dimensions of development, promoting the development of technical assistance activities and projects commensurate with the needs and priorities of ESCWA member States. Support will be provided to member States in the preparation and implementation of national policies, plans and programmes and in the identification and formulation of projects.

**Outputs**

21.54 The categories of outputs foreseen to be delivered are as follows:

(a) *Subprogramme 1. Management of natural resources and environment: $1,107,900*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on strengthening the capacity to improve energy policies; new and renewable energy technologies; development of the electric power sector; cooperation in development and management of shared water resources; evaluating environmental impact assessment for sustainable development and its harmonization in the region; and promoting environmental management;

(ii) Field projects. Two projects on management of shared water resources and efficiency in the use of energy;

(b) *Subprogramme 2. Improvement of the quality of life: $539,200*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on the development of human resources, upgrading vocational skills and drawing social and community development policies; on formulating legislation and action-oriented policies highlighting the actual needs of the family; and participation of women in economic activities and the process of development;

(ii) Field projects. Two projects on governance and civil society;

(c) *Subprogramme 3. Economic development and global changes: $880,300*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on improving economic reform policies, financial management, privatization and deregulation measures; and issues relating to WTO/GATT and the European Mediterranean Partnership; on the policies relating to macroeconomic reforms;

(ii) Field projects. Two projects on economic reform policies;

(d) *Subprogramme 4. Coordination of policies and harmonization of norms and regulations for sectoral development: $874,300*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on the measures and mechanisms for strengthening technological capabilities and technological assessments; to advise on policies and plans for the development of communication and information systems, including high-speed networking options, network infrastructure, the Internet and intranets and the harmonization of standards at the regional level; and on strategies and programmes for agricultural development, food industries and rural institutions;

(ii) Field projects. Two projects on harmonization of agricultural policies, regulations and norms;

(e) *Subprogramme 5. Development, coordination and harmonization of statistics and information: $711,000*

(i) Advisory services. Missions, in response to ad hoc requests from Governments, on electronic data processing and development; updating of main economic and social databases; designing and conducting integrated household surveys; and improving the existing systems of national accounts, related systems and classification requirements;

(ii) Group training. One workshop on data collection, classification, standardization, analysis and dissemination of statistical information, particularly in new and emerging social areas;

(iii) Field projects. Two projects on the development of communications and information systems.